Proceedings

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THE TRAVANCORE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

THIRD COUNCIL.

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THIRD SESSION—SECOND MEETING 1945 | 1120.

Saturday, the 11th August 1945|27th Karkadagom 1120.

The Council met at 12 noon in the Council Chamber, Public Offices, with Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K. C. S. I., K. C. I. E., LL. D., Dewan-President in the Chair.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following members took the oath and signed the Rolls.

1. Mr. T. K. Gopalan Nair (*Secretary to Government.*)
2. Mr. C. Kumara Das (*Do.*)
3. Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan (*Excise Commissioner*).
4. Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkateswara Aiyar (*Conservator of Forests.*)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Christian Federation.

29. ***Mr. A. N. Satyanesan** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of the identity of the persons who took part in the All-India Christian Federation as ostensible representatives from Travancore; and

[Mr. A. N. Satyanesan]

(*b*) whether they are aware of any individual having undertaken the full responsibility of opening a branch of the Federation in the State?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) No.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: മതസംബന്ധമായ സ്വസ്ഥതയെ നശിപ്പിക്കുന്ന ചില പ്രസ്താവനകൾ ഇവിടത്തെ പ്രധാനപ്പെട്ട ചില പത്രങ്ങളിൽ പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ളതായി ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: അങ്ങിനെ ചില പ്രസ്താവനകൾ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതായി അറിയാം. എന്നാൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ പെട്ടിട്ടില്ല.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് ഇൻഡ്യയിൽ നിന്നും വ്യവസായത്തിനായി ഇവിടെ വന്നിരിക്കുന്ന മിസ്റ്റർ എ. വി. തോമസ്സ് ഇവിടെയുള്ള ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികളുടെ ഒരു രാഷ്ട്രീയസംഘടന എന്ന ഭാവത്തിൽ എന്തോ ഒന്നു സ്ഥാപിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി ഗവണ്മെൻറിനറിയാമോ?

Mr. G Narayanan Tampi: ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെംബർ ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെ പറഞ്ഞറിയാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞു എന്നല്ലാതെ അതിൽ കൂടുതലായി അതിനെപ്പററി ഒന്നും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു അറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: അതു സംബന്ധമായി ഇവിടത്തെ ക്രൈസ്തവർക്ക് ചില അസ്വസ്ഥതകൾ ഉള്ളതായി ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു അറിയാമോ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: ക്രൈസ്തവർക്കെന്നല്ല ആർക്കും തന്നെ അസ്വസ്ഥതകളുള്ളതായി ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു അറിവില്ല.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ നാനാഭാഗങ്ങളിലും നടക്കുന്ന ഗൗരവമേറിയ രാഷ്ട്രീയസ്ഥിതികളെപ്പററി യഥാകാലം ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു അറിവു ലഭിക്കുന്നില്ല എന്നാണോ ഈ പറഞ്ഞതിൽനിന്നും മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ടതു്?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: ഇപ്പറഞ്ഞതിൽനിന്നു മെംബർ അങ്ങിനെയാണു് മനസ്സിലാക്കുന്നതെങ്കിൽ അതിനു വിരോധമില്ല.

President: Order, order. So far as the information at the disposal of Government goes, nothing very serious or subversive has been attempted by this All-India Christian Federation. If

they really start any unconstitutional or aggressive activities, Government will, undoubtedly, take notice of it. But so far, no such activities have come to their notice.

Grants given to Y. M. C. As. and Y. W. C. As.

30. ***Mr. A. N. Satyanesan**: Will the Government be pleased to state the total amounts of grants given to :

(*a*) Y. M. C. As and
(*b*) Y. W. C. As.
in the State in 1944?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: (*a*) Rs. 3,230.
(*b*) Rs. 360.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: ഈ ഗ്രാൻറ് എത്രകാലം മുതൽ നൽകിവരുന്നു എന്നു പറയാമോ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: തൽക്കാലം പറയാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. അന്വേഷിച്ചു പറയാം.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: വാർഷികമായ ഗ്രാൻറു കൊടുക്കുന്ന ഓരോ വർഷത്തിലും ആ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ രാഷ്ട്രീയമായ കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ ഇടപെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ എന്നു അന്വേഷിച്ചിട്ടല്ലേ ഗ്രാൻറു കൊടുക്കുന്നതു്?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: ഗ്രാൻറു കൊടുക്കുന്ന ഓരോ വർഷത്തിലും ഗ്രാൻറു കൊടുക്കുവാൻ അർഹതയുണ്ടോ എന്നു അന്വേഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണു് അതു കൊടുക്കുന്നതു്.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: ഇത്തരം സാമൂഹ്യസ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ രാഷ്ട്രീയകാര്യങ്ങളിൽ പ്രത്യക്ഷമായോ പരോക്ഷമായോ ബന്ധപ്പെടുന്നതായി ഗവൺമെൻറിൻറെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: പ്രത്യക്ഷമായ കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ ബന്ധപ്പെടുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ അതു ഗവൺമെൻറിൻറെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽപ്പെടും. പരോക്ഷമായുള്ള കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ സാധാരണ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കാറില്ല.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: ഈ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ പ്രത്യക്ഷമായ രാഷ്ട്രീയകാര്യങ്ങളിൽ ഇടപെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളതായി ഗവൺമെൻറു ഇതുവരെ അറിഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ലേ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: ആരിടപെടുന്നു എന്നുള്ളതിനെപ്പററി പറയാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു് ഇതിനു മറുപടി പറയുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

President: Does the honourable member suggest that the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A. are undertaking political work? So far as I know, they do not.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan : ഇത്തരം സംഘടനകൾ അവയുടെ സാധാരണ പ്രവൃത്തിപരിധിഭേദിച്ചിട്ടു ചിലപ്പോൾ രാഷ്ട്രീയകാര്യങ്ങളിൽ ഇടപെടുന്നതായി വെളിപ്പെടുന്നതുകൊണ്ടാണു് ഈ കാര്യം ഞാൻ ഗവൺമെൻറിൻെറ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നതു്.

President : Order, order. If and when such societies or organisations belonging to any community go outside the scope of their legitimate activities, Government will, no doubt, take particular care. As a matter of fact, there is no concealing the fact that the Y. W. C. A., though, as an organisation it was not concerned in such activities, yet a large number of persons belonging to that institution took part in certain demonstrations during the non-co-operation movement. They were warned and afterwards, I think, they have given an undertaking that they will not take part in those activities.

So far as the Y. M. C. A. is concerned, I think it has been working at least so far as ostensible or outward activities are concerned-nobody can say what the hidden activities are on the right lines. I may say that I know something about its activities because for about 30 years I have been a member of it and have been taking some particular interest in its activities. But if I find that it is taking steps not in consonance with its general objects, Government will, undoubtedly, take notice of it.

Mr. K. S. Joseph (*Mavelikara and Tiruvella cum Pattanamthitta*) : Will the honourable member kindly say what activities he referred to?

Mr. K. G. Kunjukrishna Pillai (*Advocate-General*) : On a point of order, Sir. One member cannot put a question to another member on the......

Religious processions.

31. ***Mr. K. S. Joseph** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have issued instructions that applications seeking permission for conducting religious processions should be taxed ; and

(*b*) if so, how much the tax is?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : (*a*) No.

(*b*) In view of the answer to (*a*), this question does not arise.

Malayalam as official language.

32. ***Mr. N. Narayana Kurup** (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli and Ambalapuzha cum Shertallai*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether a resolution to the effect that all Government orders to the agriculturists in the State should be in Malayalam came up for discussion in the last session of the Sri Chitra State Council ;

(b) whether the Dewan-President answered at that time that the Government accept the principle contained in the resolution ; and

(c) if so, whether the principle was put into practice ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, as far as possible.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup : May I know from the honourable member whether the information given to the agriculturists has been translated into Malayalam after the resolution has been passed ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : I would invite the attention of the honourable member to the reply given to him when he moved the resolution on the last occasion by the then Chief Secretary. This is what he said : "So far as the Revenue Department is concerned, all notices from Pakuthy Cutcherries and Taluk offices are in Malayalam in North Travancore and in Tamil in South Travancore" So there was no necessity for the Government to issue any fresh communication in that behalf.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup : May I know whether it was not pointed out on that occasion that the income-tax forms and notices given to the agriculturists are almost all of them, in English and that hence the agriculturists find it very difficult to understand the statements ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : It is not on record here that these specific things were pointed out. What the honourable member said was'.........

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup : May I know from the honourable member whether the informations on agricultural income-tax are given to all the agriculturists in general ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : I do not follow the question Sir.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup : May I know whether the information on agricultural income-tax is given to the agriculturists in general ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : The question of giving information about agricultural income tax to the agriculturists in general would arise only in future.

President : Order, order. Government propose, especially as the agricultural income-tax is to be fairly universal, to see that it is translated in simple language in Malayalam and Tamil.

Appointments in the Secretariat.

33. ***Mr. Paul A. Thaliath** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*) : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the appointments made in the Secretariat in the years 1119 and 1120 of officers drawing a salary of Rs. 50 and above ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : The time and labour involved in collecting the required information are out of proportion to its possible utility.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : In view of the statement from the Chair that caste-war statements of all appointments in Government will be published every year, I request that this and similar questions may be treated as not-asked.

President : Thank you.

Statement, by caste, of the staff in the Secretariat.

34. ***Mr. Paul A. Thaliath** : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste of the staff in the Secretariat drawing a salary of Rs. 75 and above ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : The time and labour involved in collecting the required information are out of proportion to its possible utility.

Statement, by caste, of officers in the Secretariat.

35. ***Mr. Paul A. Thaliath** : Will the Government be pleased to place on the table, a statement showing :

(*a*) the number of Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries and Superintendents in the Secretariat ;

(*b*) the number of Catholics among them ; and

(*c*) the number of Syrian Catholics among them ?

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi : The member is referred to the Quarterly Civil List.

Sale of timber for constructing buildings.

36. ***Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar** (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have reserved any portion of the timber from the forests in 1119 and 1120, fit for building construction, for sale to the subjects of the State for building construction purposes ; and

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, what percentage of the quantity removed is thus reserved and in what year ?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkateswara Aiyar (*Conservator of Forests*) : (*a*) No special reservation is made for sale of timber to subjects of the State. Monthly auctions are held at recognised depots and any person may purchase his requirements

there. In addition, *bona fide* personal needs for construction of houses are met by special sanction of the Conservator of Forests as and when such demands are made and when they cannot be normally met by purchase at auctions.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), this does not arise.

Punalur Paper Mills.

37. ***Mr. A. N. Satyanesan**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is any definite contract between the Punalur Paper Mills and the Government with regard to the running of the Paper Mills;

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, to lay on the table the papers containing such conditions included in the contract; and

(*c*) whether fuel and similar forest products are supplied to the Paper Mills on favourably low rates by the Government?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkateswara Aiyar: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The agreement will be available for inspection by the honourable member though it is necessary to keep it confidential in order that the information may not be availed of by competitors.

(*c*) Fuel and reeds are supplied at reasonable rates.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: പോയന്റ് ഓഫ് ആർഡർ സർ. ഒരേസംഗതി വിശദമാക്കുന്നതിനു മൂന്നു നാലു ചോദ്യങ്ങളയച്ചാൽ അതിൽ ഒരു ഭാഗത്തിനുമാത്രം ഉത്തരം നൽകുന്നതു ആ സംഗതി ഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നതിനു തടസ്സമായി തീരുന്നു.

President: But how does the question arise?

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: സർ, ൩൧-ാമത്തെ ചോദ്യത്തിന് ഉത്തരം നൽകിയിരിക്കുന്നു. അതിനോടു അനുബന്ധപ്പെട്ട മൂന്നു ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്കുംകൂടി ഒരേസമയത്തു ഉത്തരം നൽകിയാലല്ലാതെ ...

Mr. K. G. Kunjukrishna Pillai: How is it a point of order, Sir?

President: Yes, the honourable member will see that there is some point in what he says. It may however, be that some questions may be answered straight away with the material available in the Secretariat or in the Government Offices. In the case of certain questions, information might have to be gathered from other sources, for instance, if a question is asked about the Punalur Paper Mills, information would have to be gathered from them.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan: ആ ൩ ചോദ്യവും പുനലൂർ പേപ്പർമില്ലിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചതായിരുന്നു.

ഈ വിറകും മററു വനവിഭവങ്ങളും കൊടുക്കുന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ ഏതെല്ലാം സൗജന്യവ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു പറയാമോ?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkateswara Aiyar : The information has been placed on the table of the Secretary.

President : Order, order. All the rates and other information are contained in the papers. Naturally, the Punalur paper Mills is a commercial concern which is working in competition with equally well organised commercial concerns in the rest of India. These concerns do not want full particulars about them to be published. But as this Government have full confidence in the members of the Legislature, any member of the Legislature can, by reference to the Secretary, read the agreement and see what the rates are and so forth. That is the utmost that can be done, because these commercial concerns do not like their details to be known. For instance, there is the Fertilizers Company. The Government of India are starting several similar companies, and naturally our company will have to work in competition with them. Similarly there are several paper mills in India. These companies do not want their details to be published and utilised by others. Hence the answer.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan : ഇവിടെയുള്ള സൗജന്യ ഏർപ്പാടുകൾ ഒരേനിലയിൽ തുടരുകയും അതേ സമയത്തു് പേപ്പർമില്ലുകൾ അവരുടെ സാമാനങ്ങൾ പലപ്പോഴും വിലകൂട്ടി വിൽക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു എന്ന വസ്തുത ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkateswara Aiyar : ഇല്ല.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan : കടലാസിനു് അടിക്കടി വില കൂട്ടി വിൽക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു ഇവിടത്തെ പത്രപ്രവർത്തകന്മാരും പൊതുജനങ്ങളും അസഹ്യമായ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ അനുഭവിച്ചുവരുന്നതായി ഗവണ്മെൻറിനറിയാമോ?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkateswara Aiyar : അസഹ്യമായ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ അനുഭവിച്ചുവരുന്നതായി അറിവില്ല.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan : പേപ്പർമിൽ ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ഈ നയം കൊണ്ടു പ്രതിമാസം ൱ ൦ രൂപയിൽ കൂടുതൽ പത്രപ്രവർത്തകന്മാർക്കു് നഷ്ടം വരുന്നുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള വിവരം ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു അറിയാമോ?

Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkateswara Aiyar : അറിവില്ല.

President : I think the Honourable Member is under a misapprehension in that matter and I seem to remember why he put the previous question. There are certain newspapers and editors of newspapers in Travancore who have entered into direct contact with the Government of India and get paper at special rates

from them. This Government have not intervened in that matter. They use their own influence with the Government of India and get those concessions. They are getting, as a consequence, a quota from the Government of India while others are getting paper from the paper mills at rates which the Punalur Mills Company have fixed, having regard to their outlay and other charges and also payment of wage rolls and so forth. In these circumstances, a comparison between one newspaper and another is not accurate, because certain newspapers get directly from the Government of India at special rates.

Assault by the Excise Reserve Guard.

38. ***Mr. Paul A. Thaliath**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received any complaints in Makaram 1119 about the unwarranted assault by the Excise Reserve Guards on people living near the Kalady market in the Kunnatnad taluk,

(*b*) whether the Assistant Excise Commissioner, Parur, the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Alwaye, and the District Magistrate, Kottayam, have conducted any enquiry into this matter; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (b) is in the affirmative the result of such an enquiry and the action taken on the same?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan (*Excise Commissioner*):

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The matter is under investigation.

Temporary arrack shops during makaravilakku season.

39. ***Mr. N. Narayana Kurup**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of temporary arrack shops opened during the years 1118, 1119 and 1120; and

(*b*) the necessity for opening temporary arrack shops during the Makaravilakku festivals?

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan:

	Year.	Kottayam Division.	Mavelikara Division.	Total.
(*a*)	1118	2	4	6
	1119	2	4	6
	1120	2	4	6

(*b*) To meet the demand for arrack in connection with the festival at certain places where regular licenses have not been issued.

Transport of Food Grains.

40. ***Mr. N. Narayana Kurup**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they commandeer country crafts for the transport of food grains;

[Mr. N. Narayana Kurup]

(*b*) whether they have police escorts in the vallooms while carrying the food grains ;

(*c*) whether any authorised agent of the owner of the canoe or vallom also is taken in it while transporting food grains ;

(*d*) whether they realise the value of the shortage of food grains while in transport, if any, from the owner of the vallom who does not make any contract with the Government in that behalf;

(*e*) if the answer to part (d) is in the affirmative, what is the maximum value for shortage realised by the Government for a vallom in 1119 and 1120;

(*f*) what is the total value of shortage realised from the owners of valloms in 1119 and 1120; and

(*g*) what is the principle in such a realisation of the value of shortage from the absentee owners who have nothing to do in the transport of food grains ?

Mr. T. K. Gopalan Nair (*Secretary to Goverment*): (*a*) Yes; some valloms have been commandeered for the transport of food grains.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) None, except in cases where the boatman is also the owner of the vallom.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) to (*g*) Do not arise in view of the answer to part (d)

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: With reference to answer to part (d, may I know whether any step has been taken for the realisation of such damage from any owner of the vallom ?

Mr. T. K Gopalan Nair: No attempt has been made to realise such shortages from the owners of valloms. But sometimes they pay for the boatmen.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup. I challenge that statement, because, I know for certain that certain boat owners have been asked to pay damages. There is no agreement between the owner of the canoe and the Government if any loss happens during transport.

President: The Honourable Member will please put a question.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: I am just making a statement for the information of Government as it arises from the answer that has been furnished by Government. I am aware that about half a dozen boat men have been troubled by the Food Department for payment towards the loss sustained in connection with the transport of food grains.

President: Such petitions have come to Government.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: The answer to part (d) is that Government do not realise the value of the shortage of food grains while in transport, from the owner of the vallom.

President: What the answer means is that on the information available to Government, they have not so far realised but I know that steps are being taken to realise from boat owners in certain circumstances. The boat owners and the boatmen fulfil a very curious role. Evidently the boatmen are given a permanent lease of the use of boats by the boat owners and virtually they are the owners in a more real sense. That is the case with almost all boats. It has come to the notice of Government that the majority of boatmen are the owners of boats too. But the opposite also is the case in some instances. When you seek to make the owners liable they say that the boatmen are liable and when you go to the boatmen they say that the boat owners are liable. In some cases we are aware that it is the boat owners who were really responsible for the shortage of food grains while in transport and wherever that has been found, proceedings are being taken against them. But if there is any particular hardship found out by the Honourable Member in this connection, he may as well bring it to the notice of Government and the matter will be considered.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: When there is police escort for the transport of grains from Cochin to Alleppey, why should a boat owner be penalised for the shortages that occur?

President: Because there might be conspiracy between the policeman and the boat owner. After all we employ certain constables for the transport of food grains from Cochin to these places. No doubt, you may say that Government having employed the policemen must be careful enough to see that no shortage occurs. Certainly, one cannot expect a particular set of people to be keeping their eyes and ears open at all times. Human nature being what it is Government do consider that everybody is liable to suspision unless the contrary is proved. There is the policemen, the boat owners, the boatmen and loss. Somebody must pay for the loss. We presume that our officers are virtuous and so something is realised from the boatmen. If the contrary is proved, we will proceed against the officers.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: The possibility of a boatman being in conspiracy with a policeman is out of the question.

President: Supposing you are placed in the position, for the transport of food grains, what will you do in the matter?

Mr. N. Narayana Kurnp: My point is that as between policeman and the boat owner, the policeman has the upper hand and he will be able to do any mischief.

President: The whole thing will end in a few months when such a situation will not arise.

Transport of food grains.

41. ***Mr. N. Narayana Kurup:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have transported food grains from Cochin in country crafts to Travancore in 1118 and 1119;

(*b*) what is the total number of bags carried or transported in valloms from Cochin in 1118 and 1119 and what is the total charge incurred in that behalf in those years?

Mr. T. K. Gopalan Nair: (*a*) Yes in 1119 and none in 1118.

(*b*) 8,56,390 bags in 1118 and 19,19,631 bags in 1119, the total transport charges incurred being B. Rs. 1,09,007-6-5 in 1118 B. Rs. 4,69,676-13-11 in 1119.

Trasport of food grains.

42. ***Mr. N. Narayana Kurup:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether food grains have been transported from Cochin Harbour to Travancore in ships in 1119 and 1120;

(*b*) if so, how many bags in how many trips have been transported in ships in 1118 and 1119;

(*c*) what is the total fare paid to such ships in 1118 and 1119;

(*d*) what is the average number of bags carried per trip in ships and the fare paid per trip; and

(*e*) whether food grains were weighed and entrusted to ships before transporting and reweighed and taken delivery in Travancore?

Mr. T. K. Gopalan Nair: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) There was no transport by ships in 1118. 3,16,235 bags in 24 trips were transported in 1119.

(*c*) Nil in 1118 and Bh. Rs. 4,21,031-9-7 in 1119.

(*d*) 12,000 bags and Bh. Rs. 16,700.

(*e*) Yes.

Fertiliser plant.

43. ***Mr. A. N. Satyanesan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the rumour that a fertiliser plant at a cost of 70 lakhs of dollars is to be installed in the State is true; and

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, will they have any control in connection with the appointment of over 5000 persons in the said concern?

Mr. C. Kumara Das (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The fertiliser plant to be installed at Alwaye will, when erected, cost about 6 million dollars.

(b) The Fertilisers & Chemicals Ltd., is an incorporated company in which Government are large share holders,

Closing of shops on Sundays

44. ***Mr. N. Narayana Kurup**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they have received report or information from any source that the merchants in almost all the important towns in the State are closing their shops on all Sundays for the whole day;

(b) if so, whether such information or reports speak about the difficulties of the public by that conduct of the merchants throughout the State; and

(c) whether they have taken any action in the matter contained in such report or information for the benefit of the people of the State?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: (a) Reports have been received about closing of shops in the towns of Quilon, Alleppey and Trivandrum on Sundays.

(b) A representation received from certain people of Quilon states that inconvenience is caused to the public by the conduct of the merchants, but enqniries show that there are no real difficulties as some shops are open on Sundays also.

(c) The matter is under investigation.

Mr. N. Naraуna Kurup: May I know what is the result of the investigation?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: It has not yet been completed.

Post-war Reconstruction Committee.

45. ***Mr. M. K. Velu Pillai** (*Quilon cum Kunnathur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals entrusted for consideration of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee;

(b) the decisions, if any, made by the Committee;

(c) the work hitherto turned out by the Committee; and

(d) the composition of the Committee?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: (a) A copy of the Dewan's address at the first meeting of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee and a list of the subjects engaging the immediate attention of the Committee are placed on the Secretary's table. Various sub-committees have been formed. The whole scheme is under consideration.

(b) & (c) Various schemes are under the consideration of the Committee and sub-committees?

[Mr. C. Kumara Das]

(*d*) President—Dewan.

Members.

(i) Director of Research.
(ii) Chief Engineer.
(iii) Electrical Engineer to Government.
(iv) Director of Transport.
(v) Director of Industries.
(vi) Director of Agriculture.
(vii) Conservator of Forests.
(viii) Director of Public Instruction.
(ix) Director of Public Health.
(x) Financial Secretary to Government.
(xi) Mr. P. A. Hughes.
(xii) Mr. P. S. Narasimha Iyer,
(xiii) Secretary to Government, Development Section (Convener)

Mr. M. K. Velu Pillai : May I know how many sub committees are constituted for this purpose?

Mr C. Kumara Das : Four.

Mr. M. K. Velu Pillai : May I know the subjects allotted to each of those sub Committees ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das : One committee deals with P. W. and Electricity; the second with Industries, the third with Agriculture and Irrigation and the fourth with Roads and Road Development schemes.

President: In order that there may be no misapprehension on this matter I may make the position clear with regard to these postwar reconstruction schemes. Some are emergent in character while some others are long term schemes. The object of the Government is to investigate these schemes with the aid of their own officers and after the investigations are over, there is the possibility of putting forward what may be called a blue print of the schemes. Then public opinion will be invited and in all probability a special meeting of the legislature will be summoned and the members will also be taken into confidence as to the carrying out of the long range plans.

Postwar Industrial Scheme.

46. ***Mr. K. A. Raman pillai** (*Municipal Councils*): Will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been already taken in the direction of Post-war Industrial Scheme?

Mr. C. Kumara Das: The member is referred to the Dewan-President's address to the Joint Sitting of the Legislature on 20-7-45.

Sericulture Industry.

47. *__Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai :__ Will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken to develop the sericulture industry?

Mr. C. Kumara Das : A scheme for the development of the Sericulture industry is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai : May I know whether there was a silk farm in Travancore?

Mr. C. Kumara Das : Yes Sir.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai : May I know whether it is functioning now?

Mr. C. Kumara Das : No, Sir.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai : May I Know when it was closed?

Mr. C Kumara Das : I think it was about twelve years ago.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai : May I know the reason for the closing of that?

Mr. C. Kumara Das : At that time it was found that with the knowledge at their disposal it was not possible to carry on the rearing of worms. But knowledge has improved and measures to remedy the defects have been found out since.

President : Apart from that it was Japan and Italy who were the main competitors during those days and Japan was the main world competitor then. The real question was how to compete then?

Cultivation of Ayurvedic medicinal plants.

48. *__Mr. A. N. Satyanesan :__ Will the Government be pleased to state whether any arrangements bave been made for the cultivation of Ayurvedic medicinal plants on a commercial basis.

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker (*Secretary to Government*) : No.

Mr A. N. Satyanesan : ഇതിലേക്കുള്ള സാദ്ധ്യതകൾ ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണോ അതിന സംഗതിയാകാത്തതു്?

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker : പരീക്ഷണാർത്ഥം രണ്ടുസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ തോട്ടം ആരംഭിച്ചു. എന്നാൽ അവ ഫലപ്രദമായി കണ്ടില്ല.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan : ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് രാജ്യമൊട്ടുക്ക സർവ്വേ നടത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker : സർവ്വേ നടത്തിയിട്ടില്ല.

Village Panchayats and Unions.

49. *** Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar:** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table:

(a) a statement showing the dates when the various Village Panchayats and Unions sent their budgets for the years 1117 to 1120 and the dates of their receipt by the Government;

(b) the dates of sanction of the budgets by them;

(c) the dates when such sanction was communicated to the various Panchayats and Unions; and

(d) the dates of receipt of Government sanction by those offices?

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker: (a) to (d) Statement containing the information collected so far are laid on the Secretary's table.

Revision of age-limit of Government servants.

50. *** Mr. Paul A. Thaliath:** Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a statement, by caste, of the officers drawing Rs. 300 and more, who would have retired in 1120 and 1121 if the new age rule had not been passed?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar (*Financial Secretary to Government*): The rqeuired statement* is placed on the table.

Revision of scale of pay.

51. *** Mr. N. Narayana Kurup:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether revision of scale of pay in the Judicial Department has been made;

(b) whether the pay of clerks in that department in the scale of Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 has been revised and a new scale with increased pay sanctioned;

(c) if the answer to part (b) is in the negative, why that alone is left out, and

(d) whether revision of the same scale of pay in the Education department has been effected recently?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: The attention of the member is invited to Notification No. Fl. 5997 dated 25th July 1945 published at page 1507 of Part I of the Gazette dated 31st July 1945 and a copy of which is also placed on the Secretary's table.

Revision of pay.

52. *** Mr. N. Narayana Kurup:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any department of the Government which has not been taken into consideration for the revision of pay; and

(b) if so, which are those departments?

* *Vide* appendix 1.

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: (*a*) No.

(*b*) The attention of the member is invited to Notification No. Fl. 5997 dated 25th July 1945, published at page 1507 of Part I of the Gazette dated 31st July 1945 a copy of which is also placed on the Secretary's table.

Revision of personal scales of pay.

53. ***Mr. N. Narayana Kurup**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it was pointed out at the last session of the Sri Chitra State Council that there were certain anomalies still existing in the scales of certain appointments of clerks and officers who had been granted only personal scales in 1935;

(*b*) whether they agreed that such classes of clerks etc. suffer since no provision has been made for them in the recent revision of scales of pay;

(*c*) whether they agreed to take suitable action to remove the anomalies or mistakes in respect of such cases;

(*d*) if so, what action has been taken for the revision of the old scales referred to and to rectify the anomalies noticed;

(*e*) whether any specific instance of such anomaly has engaged the attention of Government; and

(*f*) what suitable action has been taken to remove the anomaly so brought to their notice?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: The attention of the member is invited to Notification No. Fl. 5997 dated 25th July 1945 published at page 1507 of Part I of the Gazette dated 31st July 1945 a copy of which is also placed on the Secretary's table.

Increment of pay.

54. ***Mr. N. Narayana Kurup**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have issued a circular that benefits of the concession allowed by paragraph 8 of G. O. R. Dis. No. 157/44/C. S. dated 11th March 1944 as amplified by G. O. R. Dis. No. 136/44/C. S. dated 8th May 1944 shall be allowed to all holders of personal scales also, the time-lag of the scales being removed and the increments treated as annual; and

(*b*) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, whether that has been enforced in respect of all holding personal scales of pay in all departments?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The benefits of the concessions have been extended to all holders of personal scales of pay.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: May I know whether in the standardisation scheme that took place in 1935 certain scales of pay of certain appointments were kept as personal?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: Yes, Sir.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: May I know whether such persons who have been the recipients of such payments have been benefited by the recent revision of the scales of pay?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: Yes, Sir.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: Suppose **A** has been receiving the maximum in the scale of Rs. 30-50, and is in receipt of that for 10 years, may I know will such a person get a revised scale of pay?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: Yes; he will be put in the next higher scale of 45-75 under the present revision.

Officers above the age of 55.

55. ***Mr. Paul A. Thaliath:** Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a statement, by caste, of the officers now in service drawing Rs. 300 and more and who are above the age of **55** on 15-10-1120?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: The required statement* is placed on the table.

Retirement of officers drawing Rs. 300 and above.

56. ***Mr. Paul A. Thaliath:** Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing the names of officers drawing Rs. 300 or more who retired or have taken leave preparatory to retirement in the year 1119 and the first eight months of 1120?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: The requirc statement† is placed on the table.

Statement by caste of the staff in the Financial Secretariat.

57. ***Mr. Paul A. Thaliath:** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the staff in the Financial Secretary's Office?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: Government consider that no useful purpose will be served by collecting the information required by the honourable member.

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*Vide Appendix II p. 96.

†Vide AppendixIII p. 97.

Appendix I.

Vide Answer to Question No. 50.

List of officers drawing Rs. 300 or more who would have retired in 1120 and 1121 if the new age rule had not come into force.

No.	Name.	Designation.	Due date.	Caste.
1	Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai.	Chief Secretary on special duty.	14-12-1121	Nair.
2	S. Narayana Iyer.	Financial Secretary to Government.	15-12-1120	Brahmin.
3	S. Ramaswami Iyer.	Accountant General.	15-6-1121	do.
4	T. Chandy.	Division Peishkar.	14-10-1121	Christian.
5	P. Parameswaran Pillai.	Division Peishkar on special duty.	12-5-1121	Nair.
6	K. Sankarasubba Iyer.	Judge.	18-2-1121	Brahmin.
7	A. R. Padmanabha Rao.	2nd Judge.	15-2-1121	do.
8	N. Harihara Iyer.	do	17-12-1121	do.
9	K. Sankara Marar.	Munsiff.	15-10-1121	Other Hindu
10	K. Sundaram Iyer.	Division Inspector.	15-8-1121	Brahmin.
11	Rajyasevanirata M. K. Gopala Pillai.	Director of Public Health.	2-11-1121	Nair.
12	G. Gopalakrishna Iyer.	Professor of English.	10-8-1121	Brahmin.
13	K. R. Krishna Iyer.	Professor of Chemistry	29-10-1120	do.
14	D. Jivanayagom.	Principal, Training College.	10-11-1121	Christian.
15	V. K. Philip.	Ag. Divisional Inspector of Schools.	9-2-1121	do.
16	K. Madhava Kurup.	Director of Registration.	26-4-1121	*Nair.
17	Samuel John.	Surgeon General.	27-2-1121	*Christian.

*The dates shown against items 16 and 17 are the dates of completion of the 55th year. But they have been granted extension of service for one year from these dates before the issue of the new Age Rule.

Appendix II.

Vide answer to question No. 55

Officers drawing Rs. 300 and above now in service who are above the age of 55.

No.	Name.	Designation.	Pay.	Age completed.	Caste.
			Rs.		
1	S. Narayana Iyer	Financial Secretary to Government.	650	55	Brahmin.
2	P. Parameswaran Pillai.	Division Peishkar on special duty.	700	55	Nair.
3	K. R. Krishna Iyer	Professor, University College.	500	56	Brahmin.

Appendix III.

***Vide* answer to question No. 56.**

Officers drawing Rs. 300 or more who retired or have taken leave preparatory to retirement in the year 1119 and the first eight months of 1120.

Name.	Designation.	Remarks.	
K. Kunjan Pillai	Division Peiskar	Retired on	15-3-1120
P. N. Sankara Iyer	Assistant Excise Commissioner	Do.	10-3-1119
K. Paramu Pillai	Do.	Do.	1-7-1119
T. J. Joseph	District Judge	Do.	15-3-1119
E. T. Kurien	2nd Judge	Do.	11-5-1119
P. Krishna Pillai	Deputy Inspector General of Police	Do.	16-5-1119
A. S. Daivanayagom Iyer	Do.	Do.	1-4-1120
A. Gopala Menon	Director of Public Instruction	Proceeded on leave preparatory to retirement	13-6-1120
P. S. Sivaswami Iyer	Division Inspector	Retired on	1-1-1119
Mammen Mathai	Do.	Do.	15-8-1119
R. Parameswaran Pillai	Do.	Do.	10-2-1119
Miss E. Devesiklamony	Inspectress of Girls' Schools	Do.	10-10-1119
S. Ramakrishna Iyer	Devaswom Commissioner	Proceeded on leave preparatory to retirement	7-6-1120
K. Narayana Pillai	Executive Engineer	Retired on	1-6-1120
T. K. Neelacanta Pillai	Do.	Do.	14-6-1120
P. G. Manomani	Munsiff	Do.	30-2-1119
C. Madhavan Pillai	Judge, High Court	Proceeded on leave preparatory to retirement	21-4-1120
H. Ramakrishna Iyer	Do.	Retired on	30-2-1119
K. Subramonia Pillai	Agricultural Director	Do.	19-5-1120
E. I. Chacko	Director of Industries	Do.	23-7-1120
J. J. Gomez	Surgeon	Do.	5-3-1120
P. Parameswaran Pillai	Do.	Do.	16-2-1119
I. C. Chacko	Chief Engineer	Proceeded on leave preparatory to retirement.	3-6-1120
V. Sivaramakrishna Iyer	Professor	Retired on	6-7-1120
R. Rama Varier	Accountant General	Do.	7-12-1119
S. Janardhana Iyer	Deputy do.	Do.	21-6-1120
C. V. Chandrasekharan	Pro-Vice-Chancellor	Do.	29-4-1120
T. Damodaran Nambisan	Professor	Do.	26-1-1120

President: The debate on the budget will begin today with a general discussion followed by the voting of demands for grants from the next day. The maximum of four days allowed under Rule 74 of the Legislative Rules has been allotted for the latter. The demands will be discussed in the order in which they appear in the printed list placed in your hands. The demand under III—Public Works Department, including Water Works and Drainage may be discussed for two hours, and not more than one hour will be allotted for each of the remaining demands. If the time taken up for questions and answers is less than an hour, the remaining time will also be available to the House for the voting of demands, but such available time will not go to increase the time allotted for any one demand, and will only enable the House to reach more demands.

Honourable members of the Council are, of course, aware that they should discuss each demand as a whole, and vote upon it as a whole, without moving for the reduction of any grant or of any item in a grant. To enable the discussion of each demand in the Council, it is not necessary that the members should send in any specific motion, and the Council will have the right to assent or refuse its assent to any demand when it is put to the House.

During the general discussion no member other than the Financial Secretary will be allowed more than 15 minutes, and in the voting of demands for grants the time limit for speeches for members will be 10 minutes. I hope honourable members will so adjust their speeches as to make it possible for a large number of their colleagues including the official members to participate in the debate.

DEWAN-PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT.

There are one or two omissions that I noticed in the statement that I made yesterday and in pursuance of the policy that this House should be kept fully aware of the developments that have taken place, I am making those statements in relation to that today. Honourable members of this House will be aware that there have been some questions raised as to the scale of payments to the members of the Legislature. Opinion was expressed that the present system was giving rise to certain hardships in the case of members elected to various Select Committees and Advisory Bodies and it was suggested that travelling allowances and halting allowances in respect of them were necessary under present conditions. One of the reasons which prompted Government to adopt the rules which are now in force was that there was a tremendous

amount of needless competition, perhaps, for election to the various committees and it was considered that the competition might be eliminated. But Government were not prepared for the results that actually ensued. We found that a number of meetings had to be postponed for want of quorum. So it came to the alternative of either having too much competition for election or no quorum for the conduct of meetings. Other difficulties such as the present high rate of charges for catering and transport, were brought to the notice of Government.

Now, the plan which has been generally accepted in the other House is, to bring into operation rules by which, subject to the opinion of this honourable House, honourable members of the Legislature will be paid their remuneration which will include visits to Trivandrum for the general meetings of the Legislature such as the Budget and other meetings and they will be paid their usual travelling expenses and detention expenses for Advisory Committees and the Select Committees. That is a matter which will be adequately discussed at the time when the Demand under Legislative Bodies comes up. I think it is as well that honourable members should know of it and therefore I have given that information.

Another point which has aroused a great deal of interest and controversy relates to the scarcity of Anchal envelopes throughout the country. We found on looking into the matter that the trouble was partly due to the greatly increased demand for Anchal envelopes amounting to nearly 40 per cent. more than the demand for the last year. It was also discovered that the origin of the evil was due to certain merchants and institutions buying a large stock and selling it at high prices. Therefore, there was hoarding and profiteering practised in respect of Anchal envelopes. In order to get over the difficulty Government have, by way of experiment, introduced a rule which will come into operation from day after to-morrow that Anchal envelopes will here after be sold only in Anchal offices and will not be available for sale elsewhere.

There is another matter which the honourable members may be very interested to know because it has arisen as a result of very recent events. Honourable members have, no doubt, read something about atomic bombs and honourable members might have realised that one of the most important components of that bomb which is now used destructively but which later on, it is hoped, might become a great instrument to facilitate power production, is uranium. Equally important is a metal called thorium which is very widely scattered in our mineral sands. The whole matter has been discussed by Sir C. V. Raman and he has pointed out that thorium is also capable of fission in the same way as uranium.

[President.]

The advice of other experts also concurs with his views and it therefore becomes all the more necessary for us in view to the possible developments, to conserve our mineral sands in the direction already taken by the Government.

Lastly, there is a matter which I must bring to the notice of this honourable House. It is a question of privileges. In dealing with certain events that happened in the Legislature, a newspaper "The Deepika," has stated that according to reports received by it, the Dewan President kept quite when a certain member spoke something on a resolution with regard to religious instruction. The imputation is that the Dewan was actuated by communal bias and so he did not pull up the member when he suggested in the first place that this was a Hindu State and secondly that religious instruction should not be given in schools and colleges.

Now, into the merits of the question I do not enter, nor do I propose at this stage to discuss the very curious argument as to this State being a Hindu State, which of course it is. The question does not arise in that form. The imputation is that the Chair permitted such discussion. As a matter of fact, the Chair at once pulled up the member and said he has talking irrelevent things when he introduced the subject, namely of this State being a Hindu State. A newspaper which deliberately omits that and puts forward a suggestion which imputes communal bias on the part of the President is thereby infringing the decencies of debate. I do not wish to be too strict. Probably the newspaper has proceeded on imperfect information. But unless it verifies these matters and is willing to publish an ample apology, the Press privileges of that paper will be withdrawn. It is a matter which the newspaper has to consider and decide upon.

The general discussion will now commence.

THE GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.

Mr. T. W. U. Park (*The Travancore Planters*): Sir, it has been my privilege for some years to offer congratulations to the Government on the excellent state of the country's finances and to voice my appreciation of the extraordinarily able way in which Financial Secretaries have presented their budgets. This year can be no exception, in fact there is a particular reason for our congratulations for, with an anticipated revenue this year of over Rs. 6 crores and an estimated revenue next year of nearly Rs. $6\frac{1}{4}$ crores, a financial epoch has been reached in the annals of Travancore. This achievement must give very great satisfaction throughout the country, and I imagine, will create a considerable feeling of envy elsewhere........

President: I have just got a list of honourable members who wish to speak. 26 honourable members have evinced their determination to speak, that means, all the honourable members except the Official benches. I have absolutely no objection to allow it. But I have to call them in some order. So, unless honourable members who speak abbreviate their remarks we will not be able to give opportunity for other honourable members to speak.

Mr. T. W. U. Park: It cannot be disputed that the rise in the revenues at the present time is due to fortuitous circumstances arising out of the war. It is particularly gratifying therefore that Government propose to divert the surplus towards schemes of development and nation building activities which should go a long way towards securing the future well-being of the country.

Turning to the reconstruction plans, they are certainly calculated to capture the imagination of all thinking citizens and when they are carried through, as carried through they must be, with skill and courage coupled with a certain circumspection, I am convinced that the results will be of inestimable value to the prosperity of Travancore and to its economic security.

With regard to the planning for industrial development, the proposals deserve approval and welcome. But as you, Sir, have suggested, and I am glad of the emphasis laid on the point, these schemes cannot go forward unhindered unless there is a really harmonious relationship between the employees and the employer. It is therefore all the more gratifying to find that Government have decided to send two representatives to the United Kingdom for training in Labour administration. I feel sure that on their return the fruits of their experience will be available to and will be shared by all three parties concerned, the State, the employers and the employees.

President: There is a scheme for sending one or two persons for what may be called managerial training so that their experience may be of help for those persons who are in charge of big estates and other business concerns.

Mr. T. W. U. Park: That is a happy idea. I also understand that Labour Welfare Officers will be appointed. If these are men of broad human sympathy coupled with a sense of economic realism then the benefits that will accrue in that direction will also be very considerable.

[T. W. U. Park.]

It seems to me however that labour administration can only be successful and effective in promoting the mutual, and not conflicting, interests of labour and capital if there is available, for all negotiations and enquiries, accurate data based on actual facts and figures. This being so it is satisfactory to know that under the Industrial Statistics Act Government will be armed with the powers necessary for the collection of industrial statistics. I am one however, with my friend Mr. Narayana Iyer in thinking that statistics should cover a much wider field; I have in mind at the moment the cost of living index for example. The Consultative Committee to the Bureau of Statistics may take some time to finish its labours. But I hope that no effort will be spared and no time lost in compiling, analysing and keeping up to date all the necessary facts and figures in order that we may have a complete and accurate statistical picture of Travancore in all its various activities. I would particularly mention the major items of Public Health, Industry and Agriculture.

Speaking about agriculture, I want to speak a word or two about soil erosion, a hardy annual of mine. I am forcibly reminded of this subject by the sights I see whenever I pass through the foot hills on my way to Trivandrum. I saw in the papers the other day that a soil expert from America has arrived in India in order to give advice on this matter to the Central and Provincial Governments. I earnestly hope that the advice of such an expert will be available for this State also.

President: We are asking him to come down here. At present he has gone to Ceylon at the instance of the Ceylon Government.

Mr. T. W. U. Park: I feel, looking ahead a little, that mere propaganda, however ably conducted, will not be enough, it has been ineffective elsewhere. Sooner or later this House must be asked to approve of Legislative measures towards finding a solution to a problem which is indeed a grave one.

Now one word about tolls. I admit that tolls are something of an anachronism in a progressive state and must go. Naturally there must be some other form of taxation for the upkeep of the roads. I do not know whether the new scheme contemplated will seek to impose annual taxation of motor vehicles only or on carts also. If the former be the case it would appear that the motor owner will once again have to "carry the baby".

President: We will provide for wet and dry nurses. (*Laughter*).

Mr. T. W. U. Park: But I look forward to the time when all the vehicles are provided with pneumatic tyres throughout the State. I know that will go a long way in preventing undue deterioration of the new roads which are under contemplation. Before I leave the subject of tolls, on looking at the budget, I find that the ordinary toll revenue is about Rs. 6 lakhs.

President: Rs. 5,90,000 was the latest offer.

Mr. T. W. U. Park: I hope that in the new scheme of things the contribution payable by the Transport Department will not be lost sight of as it is a commercial undertaking.

President: It is purely a commercial concern and so it will bear all the liabilities and incidence of taxation just as any other commercial concern. Of course, it may be, from one point of view, book adjustment, but in order to know how far the department pays and to see that it takes upon itself the burden of taxation, it will be asked to pay.

Mr. T. W. U. Park: I should have liked to have concluded on a less critical note but I feel constrained to make a few observations on one other matter, that of taxation. I have been a little uneasy over, and I view with some disquiet, the recent tendency towards the imposition of retrospective tax liabilities in various forms? May I give one or two instances. The Excess Profits Tax, surcharge on Income Tax in a previous year though I admit that it was modified in certain cases, the Excise duty on Tea and now, more recently the levy of royalties on water rights with restrospective effect. Now speaking personally and not on behalf of any particular interest, but simply as the "man in the street", and no expert in economics or finance I feel that retrospective taxation in any form is fundamentally unsound in principle and may create a feeling of insecurity, inimical to a country's interests particulary when that country is embarking on big industrial and agricultural expansion. I feel that the individual must know exactly where he stands from day to day. Although, I do not for a moment dream of questioning the right and in fact the duty of the State to levy any form of taxation which it deems is necessary and equitable,............

President: Does the honourable member refer to the Excess Profits duty or anything else?

Mr. T. W. U. Park: Everything that I have mentioned here.

I should like to have the most positive assurance from Government that it will resist any pressure or persuasion from any quarter, will resist even its own inclinations and temptations, in the matter of taxation which may have any kind of retrospective effect whatsoever.

President: Mr. Financial Secretary, you might indicate the lines on which this difficulty as regards the Excess Profits duty is sought to be removed.

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, it is not yet officially decided by the Government.

President: Orders will be issued within a fortnight regarding the Excess Profits Duty—that is, no retrospective effect excepting, for instance, that taxes should start from the first of Chingom. Thus in any particular year, for the purpose of accounts, it must start with the financial year. You will find that in England, or in America, or in the Central Government, whenever a tax is imposed, it generally dates back to the beginning of the financial year. It is, therefore, to that extent that there may be retrospectivity; but in the case of the Excess Profits Duty, there was a greater amount of retrospectivity and this is being looked into, and orders will be issued shortly.

Mr. T. W. U. Park: Thank you, Sir. I do not want to say anything more. But I would like to record as a member of this House and as a member of the Public, my appreciation of the way in which, through the statements which are made from time to time by the Head of the Administration, we are kept so completely in the picture and are constantly being enlightened as to the present and future policy of the Government. I have much pleasure in approving of the Budget as presented.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, let me thank you, first, for the announcement you have made abolishing the Tolls. It should be a source of relief to the ordinary bullock-cart driver or to the buffalo-cart driver as well as to the busy man and the tourists. Sir, it is a fact that for travelling a distance of 150 miles from the northern part of Travancore to the Capital, we have to pass thorugh twelve gates, six main and six subsidiary. To devote two or three minutes to each gate would mean the loss of more than half an hour a day. Considering the stress and strain of these times, this delay works to the great hardship of the traveller and the fact that Government have noticed this difficulty is one which calls for a feeling of gratification.

The second point that I have to touch upon is about the change proposed to be made in the Village Unions and the Village Panchayat Reorganisation. Although the latest Gazette notification states that the Director of Public Health has been appointed as the Registrar in place of the overworked Peishkar it gives no further details. The Associated Press of India is said to give further details which I did not see. Anyhow it is gratifying to note that the change effected is very salutory, especially, as the whole burden is placed on an officer who is willing to work day in and day out for

the interests of the people and who is interested in the welfare of the State. We offer to him our co-operation in all his endeavours. Sir, it is high time that the Unions and Panchayats are given the right to have non-official Presidents by election or at least by nomination for the time being.

Coming to the budget, it is very gratifying to find that the revenues of the State are increasing by leaps and bounds under your paternal care. As you rightly remarked, Sir, there is no necessity for any pessimism as to the future revenues in view of the large-scale resources and large-scale industrial development taken by you. Sir, you were kind enough to take the opportunity, when you received His Excellency the Governor of Madras at the time of laying of the foundation of the Sri Avittam Thirunal Hospital, of indicating to His Excellency some of the policies and ideals which you have conceived for the future of this State. It will be useful to note what His Excellency said in return after hearing the suggestions made by you. His Excellency said:

> "The observations made by the Dewan should excite the envy of many other parts of India and indeed of many parts of the world." and His Excellency hoped, 'it would serve as an example to many States and administrations in this great country of India".

Coming as it does from such a very high personage, who is also dealing with matters of great importance, these remarks are entitled to very great weight. It is generally seen when there is a great clamour from any section of the public for a particular quota of anything, any work or any reform, the policy of this Government was to set apart a sum for the particular work to appease that particular section of the people; and it so usually happens that by the end of the year the amount set apart is not spent but is carried over, the work being left undone. Now, it is clear that you have given specific directions to the various heads of the departments that all sums budgetted for works this year shall be spent to the last pie. This encouraging statement may remove the fears entertained till now by the public. There appears to be a general rise in the country's economical position, even among the lower classes of the State's people. In this connection, I may refer to a statement in the Administration Report of the Education Department which will go to show that out of eight lakhs and odd students who attended the schools in 1119, nearly 1·39 lakhs are children of daily labourers and coolies. It could also be seen that children of farmers and tenants attending schools come to about four lakhs. These both have contributed to the 60 per cent of the total number of students who go to school. That is a clear proof that the poor people, the tenant and the labourer who want relief is getting ample relief. It is gratifying to note that the poor people get some opportunities to educate the poor students who were groaning under very serious handicaps.

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It could be seen from the budget that almost all nation-building activities have been sufficiently provided for. The provision for Post-War Reconstruction will go to show your interest in the future welfare of the State and the amount that you are prepared to set apart for the future development of the State. In this connection, it may not be out of place if I refer, although comparisons may not be good, to the amounts set apart for this purpose in the enlightened State of Baroda. That State which has a revenue of over four crores has set apart only 12 lakhs for post-war reconstruction scheme. But here 17 per cent of the total revenues of the State has been set apart for the Post War schemes.

Another most important fact that has been dealt with in connection with the budget is the introduction of the new measure of Basic Tax. I congratulate you Sir, on this bold, important and innocent reform taken up by you, Sir, generally, when a change is proposed to be effected in any policy, there would be some sort of apprehension that hardship would be caused to the people. But if one realises and studies the position and looks into the pros and cons of the whole matter, then alone would one be satisfied that it is really intended for the welfare of the people. The land revenue of this State now comes to 43 lakhs. If this Basic tax principle is to be followed, the amount we could realise by the levy of Basic tax *ie.*, at each 4 cash per cent would come to only 23 lakhs even if all arable land in the State is taxed leaving a deficit of nearly 20 lakhs in land revenue alone. Now, as against the Basic tax, the other proposal brought forward is to levy Income Tax on agricultural income for amounts from Rs. 2000 upwards. As regards the introduction of the Basic tax, it may not be out of place if I am permitted to read what the Leading Paper "Hindu" had to say on the subject.

"The reform of the land tax which he has announced, is, in this context, not merely a great measure of equity, but an efficient lever with which to push up food production. Henceforth, there will be but a nominal basic tax on land of 25 chuckrams per acre which is considerably less than a rupee. No person getting below a certain income per year from land would be called upon to pay more than the basic tax. Others would pay the tax upon their net incomes. Further, those persons whose income comes solely from land are to get certain concessions. These principles of land policy are generally in conformity with those the adoption of which by the Government in India we have long advocated in these columns. The liberalisation of the tax on land ought to give a definite impetus to the growth of the agricultural industry and add to the food resources of the State. But the Government contemplate other means also of increasing food supplies such as the reclamation of the backwaters so as to grow paddy on the reclaimed land."

In another part of the very same editorial, the paper deals with the budget which is presented to us in the following manner:—

> "What is really significant in a budget to-day is not so much the figures as the policy which lies behind those figures. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar's speech provides us with an idea of that policy so far as Travancore is concerned. The endeavour of his Government is, first and foremost, to feed the citizens and clothe them; to keep them free from want as far as possible by providing them with knowledge which is as much money as power and with remunerative employment which must flow from it when it is wisely yoked to the productive resources of the State".

These remarks, coming as they do from a leading and respectable paper, I submit, are entitled to much weight.

Now, for the time being, we will see whether a resettlement policy is wise or not. Although there has been settlements in 1012 and later on in 1061, it has been found in practice that the settlement policy was fraught with serious difficulties. Government had to tax not only the land but a number of trees as well. In the original settlement operations, jack trees, arecanut trees and cocoanut trees alone were taxed. But it so happened later on that in some localities, most probably in South Travancore, a large number of other trees had to be taxed—*e.g.* ilappa, kounai, palmaram, tamarind, mangoe, punna etc. Government found it very difficult, to tax some trees in one place and omit them in another. The classification for wetland also was found to be very difficult. In the Royal Proclamation of 1061, the practical difficulties of such settlement have been pointed out and it will be worthwhile if I read the particular portion here. Although a system of taxation was prevalent before then, it was found very difficult of adoption. The Government wanted to try another system. That too was found to be equally difficult. No other system, was, therefore, open to them nor could they conceive of anything else. So they thought it best to adopt a via media which may be of less difficulty to the public. In Section 3 of the Proclamation which I referred to we find the following:—

"The distribution of cocoanut trees into 4 classes in North Travancore appears to have been made with reference to productive capacity as indicated by the number of nuts, number of madals or fronds, etc., on each productive tree. Now, this, in practice must prove a most difficult process and could not be expected to yield correct results. It is impossible for any human agency to look at each tree in a garden and form a correct valuation of its productive power and place them in one or other of any prescribed number of

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classes without any pretensions to accuracy. The scope too for fraud and oppression which such a procedure must necessarily afford to the subordinate officials, whose operation it must be impossible for the superior officers in such circumstances to check and control, will be very great."

Realising the serious difficulties of the existing method of taxation and finding no other means of getting over the various difficulties in the method of taxation, the Government tried to follow a middle course at the settlement which began about 1061. That also, in practice was found to be not at all saticfactory but was a source of continued complaints and hardship. Thus it may be seen that if a resettlement, on the old system, is to be adopted, it will be capable of working a lot of mischief and untold sufferings to the public. I think it took nearly 20 years in South Travancore to get the last resettlement operations completed. Notwithstanding that there is always the complaint that Nanjanad was very heavily taxed. Later on, when the late Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao assumed the Dewasnhip of the State, he realised the that delay and expense involved are large and disproportionate and passed an order to the effect that the settlement operations in the rest of the state should be finished in five years. In so doing he had also given directions to the subordinates of the settlement Department that they need not go into the details about the rights and titles of various plots and persons to get patta and that they might consider, only the primafacie claims, and issue *pattas* within a reasonable time and that the aggrieved party might go to a court of law. It was also stated that the grant of Pattah by the settlement authorities except in the case of Puthuval and Poramboke lands does not coner any title on the person getting the pattah affect the title of the true owner and that the latter is even not bound to set it aside. The grant of Pattah is merely for the converienu of Government for purposes of revenue collection. There was indeed great confusion, so much so that I can say with ceratinty that the havoc brought about by the issue of *pattas* in North Travancore was very serions. The pattah was issued in North Travancore in 1085. A reference to the Administration Report of the Judicial Department will convince us that a very large number of suits had to be filed for cancellation of pattas and declaration of title. But the confusion is not yet over. Even now we have to seek redress in civil suits to rectify the mistakes caused by wrong pattas. In controversial cases much reliance was sought to be placed on Ayacut accounts such as Olugu, Vilangippers etc. and to add to the difficulty it is said that the Government passed an order that copies of old revenue records such as Olugus, Vilangippers etc could not be

supplied to parties, because probably they feared that they too might be involved in litigation or made liable for the mistakes committed in the issue of pattas. Parties could not get copies of the original records such as Olugus Vilangippers etc. Therefore there was a lot of confusion in the proceedings of the suit.

President: Added to which, many of the records will disappear in the course of the suit. (Laughter).

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: That was also one of the difficulties. Thus, that policy if it has to be followed, involves not only much waste, time and difficulty but it may not be successful and may be capable of the serious consequences stated above. It is advisable to ascertain whether by the proposed change to the basic tax whether the Government is a gainer and what is it that stimulates the Government for the change. The approximate number of assessees that may have to pay the agricultural income tax on incomes from Rs. 2,000 up to Rs. 5,000 is said to range between 500 and 1,000. We will take it, for the present, as 1,000. Let us first of all take the average income as Rs. 3,000 per head. We will fix 8 cash as the taxable amount per rupee as is done in the Rs. 5,000 income. If Rs. 3,000 is taken as the average income for all the 1,000 assessees the total tax which will be realised will amount to about Rs. 53,000. If we take Rs. 2,000 as the income, for all the assessees the amount that will be recovered as income tax will again be about Rs. 35,000. If we fix the income to be Rs. 4,000 for all the assessees the tax will come to about Rs. 70,000. So, by whatever means we may calculate, Government can get only a very small amount as income tax. It is not even 1/20 of the loss the Government sustain by the reduction and change. That must convince every body that the change taken or proposed by you, Sir is not to benefit the Government but to give real relief to the much affected agriculturists even at great loss to Government and to give him an incentive to do good work on land and maintain his livelihood.

There is another point arising in regard to the taxation, if the old system is to be adopted again. It is in fact an anomaly. Take the cocoanut tree which is said to be the 'Kalpaka Vriksham' in Malabar. Its products from top to bottom are useful and are utilised in many ways. This tree is now taxed and all its products; the tree is taxed; the fruit is taxed; the shell is taxed; the oil is taxed; punnac is taxed, coir is taxed and in fact every blessed thing from the cocoanut is taxed. The fruit, oil etc are taxed by the levy of export customs duty. I think this is opposed to all canons of taxation. There was a very sensible agitation years ago

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that the customs duty on cocoanut products should be abolished. When once the tree is taxed, the fruits could not be taxed, but the position has now become difficult in view of the Cochin harbour agreement and the Interportal agreement, etc. We do require some sort of relief for the cocoanut grower. The cocoanut planters are in a very difficult plight. Therefore this measure of taxing only the soil on the basis of the acreage without reference to the tree is also a source of much relief to the cocoanut grower who comes next to paddy in point of extensive cultivation.

If we adopt a resettlement, I would ask about the future of cashew nut trees. Those trees are not now taxed at all. That Cashewnut has a very great future is undisputed and you have referred the same in your speech. The decisions of civil courts will go to show that cashewnut is not a tree for which value of improvements could be claimed and only fuel value could be awarded. civil courts decision will have to be ignored if the tree is to be taxed. When we see the industrial value of the tree it can be seen that the tree may have to be taxed. But in that case a lot of other trees may have to come under that category. So we have to adopt different varieties of taxation to suit the dual purpose of the trees in various localities. Thus it is clear that the proposed change is a very wholesome one.

I have to answer another allegation. It appears to have been very often stated on the floor of the House that South Travancore is very heavily taxed but not North Travancore. Sir, I do sympathise with the people of South Travancore, but so far as North Travancore is concerned, it is not lightly taxed. The average taxation on Kayal lands in North Travancore comes to more than Rs. 15 per acre and much of the lands are lying fallow for want of proper facilities. Government also wanted to prevent the onrush of salt water by putting up bunds. A bund was put up in Parur and a cess was levied but it was found that they could not give any adequate relief. The lands are lying often fallow and are heavily taxed except in certain detached portions.

I may next be permitted to say that so far as the amount set apart for the agricultural department is concerned, I feel that sufficient attention has not been paid to the department. There are twenty demonstrators in the Agricultural department, but only a very nominal sum is set apart for conducting Agricultural demonstrations in private lands. What I would submit is that the farms have to be located on the side of M. C. Roads throughout the State so that they will be made more attractive. Demonstration farms should not be conducted on private lands. Government must

open farms and conduct them on attractive and ideal lines so that the public may be benefited. The farms now maintained in nooks and corners and in distant places may not be of much use. With these words I close.

Srimathi P. Thankama (*Nominated*) : സർ, ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയുടെ ബഡ്ജററിൽ നിന്നു നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ മുതലെടുപ്പ് ദിനംപ്രതി വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നതായും (അദ്ദേഹത്തിൻെറ പ്രസ്താവനയിൽ ആവശ്യം കൂടാനിടയുള്ളതായ ഒരാശങ്കയ്ക്കു ഇടനൽകിയിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും) ഇപ്പോൾ നമുക്ക് ഒരു മിച്ചമുള്ള ബഡ്ജററ് ഉള്ളതായും കാണുന്നതിൽ അഭിനന്ദിക്കുന്നു. വരവ് വർദ്ധിക്കുമ്പോൾ ചെലവു കൂടുകയും വരവു കുറയുമ്പോൾ ചെലവു കുറയുകയും ചെയ്ക സഹജമാണ്. എന്നാൽ വരവു വർദ്ധിക്കുമ്പോൾ കൂടുന്ന ചെലവുകൾ ഭാവിയിൽ ആദായകരങ്ങളായ മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളിലും കൂടി ആകുമ്പോൾ വരവു കുറയുമെന്ന ഭയത്തിന് നമുക്ക് അവകാശമില്ലാതാകും. സർ, അങ്ങയുടെ പ്രസ്താവനയിൽ പോസ്റ്റ്‌വാർ റീ കൺസ്ട്രക്ഷൻ പ്രോഗ്രാമിന് നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള എഴുപത്തിനാലരലക്ഷത്തിൽ പരം രൂപ അതാതു തുറകളിലെ മേലധികാരികൾ കാര്യക്ഷമമായി ഈയാണ്ടിൽത്തന്നെ ചെലവഴിക്കണമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതു് ഉചിതമാണ്. ഇതു് ഓരോ ആണ്ടിലും ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലേക്കും അനുവദിക്കുന്ന തുക ലാപ്സാകരുതെന്നാണ് എൻെറ അപേക്ഷ. റോഡ്, പാലം, കുളം, തോട് ഇവകളുടെ അഭാവങ്ങളേയും അററകുററങ്ങളേയും മററുമുള്ള പരാതികൾ നിയമസഭകളിലും മററു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലും കേൾക്കുന്നതിന് വേണ്ട പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാക്കുന്നതു ഗതാഗതങ്ങൾക്കും കൃഷിവാണിജ്യാദികൾക്കും അത്യന്താപേക്ഷിതമാണെന്നു പറയേണ്ടതില്ലല്ലോ. പൊതുമരാമത്തു ഇനത്തിൽ പൊതുനന്മയ്ക്കായി ഓരോ താലൂക്കുകൾക്കും അതാതു ആണ്ടിൽ അനുവദിക്കുന്ന തുകകൾ എങ്കിലും അതാതു വർഷം അറിടെ ചെലവാക്കുന്നതിന് അധികൃതർ ശ്രമിച്ചിരുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ ഇത്രത്തോളം പരാതികൾക്കിടവരികയില്ലായിരുന്നു. പി. ഡബ്ലിയു. ഡി-ൽ എന്നപോലെ മററു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളിലും പൊതുവേയും ചില പ്രത്യേക ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കായും അനുവദിക്കുന്ന തുകകൾ ലാപ്സാകാൻ ഇടവരുത്താതെ അവ പ്രയോജനകരമായി അതാതു വർഷത്തിൽത്തന്നെ വിനിയോഗിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ഗ്രാൻറു മെമ്മോകൾ പുതുക്കുന്നതിലും ഗ്രാൻറു ബില്ലുകൾ അനുവദിക്കുന്നതിലും കാലവിളംബം വരാതെ ഇരിക്കുന്നതിൽ അധികൃതർ കൂടുതൽ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കേണ്ടതായിട്ടാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അങ്ങയുടെ പ്രസ്താവന മേലാൽ ഇക്കാര്യങ്ങൾക്കു പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാകുന്നതിനുതകുമെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

[Srimathi P. Thankama.]

അടുത്തതായി വ്യവസായത്തെപ്പററിയാണ് എനിക്കു രണ്ടു വാക്ക് പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്. വലിയമൂലധനങ്ങൾ മുടക്കി നടപ്പാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള ചില വ്യവസായങ്ങൾ അഭിവൃദ്ധമായിട്ടുള്ളതിനു പുറമേ പുതുതായി പലതും തുടങ്ങാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതു യുദ്ധസേവനാനന്തരം തിരിച്ചു വരുന്നവരുടെ തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മപ്രശ്നത്തിനു ഏതാണ്ട് പോംവഴി നൽകുമെങ്കിലും യുദ്ധസേവനത്തിനു പോയിരിക്കുന്ന ഓരോ വ്യക്തിയും അവരവരുടെ കുടുംബാംഗങ്ങൾക്കു ഇന്നു അയച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന പണം നിന്നുപോകുമ്പോൾ ആ സ്വാധുകുടുംബങ്ങളുടെ സംരക്ഷണത്തിനു അഭിമാനംകൊണ്ടു വെളിയിലിറങ്ങാനും, പട്ടിണികൊണ്ടു വീട്ടിലിരിക്കാനും വയ്യാത്തവരുടെ സംരക്ഷണത്തിനു കുടിൽ വ്യവസായപോഷണമല്ലാതെ മററു സിദ്ധൌഷധം കാണുന്നില്ല. സ്വതേ പരിശ്രമശീലരല്ലാത്തവരും ആദായമുണ്ടെന്നു മനസ്സിലാകുമ്പോൾ ശരിയായ പ്രോത്സാഹനം ലഭിച്ചാൽ പ്രയത്നാലുക്കളാകുന്നതാണ്. വ്യവസായവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിലേക്ക് നീക്കി വച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ൪൨,൩൦൯-ം, വ്യവസായാഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കു വച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ൧,൭൬൨-ം രൂപ കുടിൽ വ്യവസായപരിപോഷണത്തിനു തീരെ പരിമിതമാണ്. നാഗർകോവിലിൽ ഉള്ള എസ്സ്. എം. ആർ വി. ഇൻസ്റ്റിററ്യൂട്ട് പോലെ പ്രധാന നഗരങ്ങളിലെങ്കിലും ഓരോ സ്കൂളുകൾ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണം. ഇന്നു് കുടിൽ വ്യവസായപോഷണത്തിന് ഒരു ആർഗനൈസിംഗ് ഇൻസ്പെക്ടറെയാണ് നിയമിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്. അതുകൊണ്ട് തിരുവിതാംകൂറിന്റെ നാനാഭാഗങ്ങളിലും കുടിൽ വ്യവസായം അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടുന്നില്ല. ആർഗനൈസർ ഒരു സ്ഥലത്തു് ഒന്നു തുടങ്ങിയാൽ അതു ഫലപ്രദമാകണമെങ്കിൽ അതിലേക്ക് പരിചയമുള്ള ഇൻസ്പെക്ടേഴ്സിനെ അവിടെ നിയമിക്കേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. സംസ്ഥാനത്തുള്ള ഗ്രാൻറ്-ഇൻ-എയിഡ് നെയ്ത്തു സ്കൂളുകളിൽ മററു കുടിൽ വ്യവസായങ്ങൾ കൂടി തുടങ്ങി ഓരോ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർമാരെ കൂടെ വച്ച് തൊഴിൽ പഠിപ്പിക്കാവുന്നതാണ. അതു പഠിച്ച് കുടിൽ വ്യവസായത്തിനു സന്നദ്ധരാകുന്നവർക്ക് ആവശ്യമുള്ള സാധനസാമഗ്രികൾ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിന് ഓരോ സെൻറേഴ്സും അവിടവിടെ സ്ഥാപിച്ചുകിട്ടണം. സെൻറേഴ്സിൽ നിന്നും അസംസ്കൃത സാധനങ്ങളും സാമ്പിളും നൽകി വേലക്കൂലി കൊടുത്തു് സംസ്കൃത സാമാനങ്ങളെ ശേഖരിച്ച് വില്പന നടത്തേണ്ടതാണ്. ഇങ്ങനെ നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തുള്ള അസംസ്കൃത സാധനങ്ങൾ ഓരോന്നായി മററു രാജ്യങ്ങളിലേക്ക് അയച്ച് വിപണികൾ കരസ്ഥമാക്കാൻ ലഭിച്ച ഈ സുവർണ്ണാവസരത്തെ ഗവണ്മെൻറും ജനങ്ങളും പരിശ്രമോന്മുഖരായി ഉപയോ

ഗിച്ചാൽ ഭാവിയിൽ വരുമാനം കുറയുമെന്നുള്ള ആശങ്കയ്ക്കു് അവകാശമില്ല.

നമ്മുടെ വനങ്ങളിൽ പേപ്പർ, റയാൺസിൽക്ക് മുതലായ പല വ്യവസായത്തിനും പററിയ അസംസ്കൃതസാധനങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടെന്നും അവ ഉപയോഗിച്ച് ഫലപ്രദങ്ങളായ വ്യവസായങ്ങൾക്കുദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നും പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടല്ലോ. പല തരത്തിലുള്ള ചായങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിലേക്കു പററിയ ചില ചെടികളും വൃക്ഷങ്ങളും നമ്മുടെ വനങ്ങളിൽ സുലഭങ്ങളായിട്ടുള്ളവയെക്കൂടി വിദഗ്ദ്ധന്മാരെക്കൊണ്ടു പരിശോധിപ്പിച്ച് നമുക്ക് വേണ്ട ചായങ്ങളും ഇവിടെ ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതായാൽ വരവു ചായങ്ങളെ ആശ്രയിക്കാതെ കുടിൽ വ്യവസായത്തിനും മററും ആവശ്യമുള്ള ചായങ്ങൾ ലഭിക്കുന്നതാണ്.

പൊതുജനാരോഗ്യവിഷയമായി ഒന്നു രണ്ടു സംഗതികൾ കൂടി ഉൽബോദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളട്ടെ. യുദ്ധാനന്തരപുനരുദ്ധാരണ ബഡ്ജററിൽ ൧൧൫൧-ലേക്കു ൭ ലക്ഷവും, പി. ഡബ്ലിയു. ഡി. ബഡ്ജററിൽ ൪ ലക്ഷത്തിനോട്ട് അടുത്ത് ഒരു തുകയും, ആശുപത്രികളുടെ പുനരുദ്ധാരണത്തിനും പരിഷ്കാരത്തിനുമായി നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടല്ലോ. അതിൽ ആദ്യമായി വലിയ സാംക്രമികരോഗങ്ങളായിട്ടുള്ള മസൂരി, കാളറാ ഇവകൾക്കു ഇവിടെ ശരിയായ ഒരു ഐസൊലേഷൻ ആശുപത്രി ഇല്ലെന്നുള്ളതു് പരിഹരിക്കണം. ഐരാണിമുട്ടം എന്ന സ്ഥലത്തു് ഒരു മസൂരി ആശുപത്രി ഉള്ളതു് മുൻപ് ഗവണ്മെൻറധീനതയിലും ഇപ്പോൾ കാർപ്പറേഷൻെറ അധീനതയിലുമാണ്. കാർപ്പറേഷൻ ഏറ്റെടുത്തശേഷം ഒരു ഡാക്ടരെ അതിലേക്കു നിയമിക്കയും ചില ടെമ്പ്രറി ഷെഡ്ഡുകൾ കെട്ടുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ ഇതു നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ സ്ഥിതിക്കു തീരെ പര്യാപ്തമല്ലെന്നു പറയാതിരിക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. മദ്രാസിൽ തൊണ്ടിയാർപേട്ട എന്ന സ്ഥലത്തുള്ളതുപോലെ ഒരു ആശുപത്രി നമുക്കും ഉണ്ടാകേണ്ടതാണ്. രണ്ടോ നാലോ പേ വാർഡും മററു ജനറൽ വാഡുകളുമായി പുതിയ രീതിയിൽ ഒരു ഐസൊലേഷൻ ആശുപത്രി രാജധാനിയിലെങ്കിലും തൽക്കാലം ഉണ്ടാകണമെന്നു അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നു. രണ്ടാമതായി ദിവസംപ്രതി ടൈഫായിഡും മലേറിയായും വർദ്ധിച്ചുവരുന്ന ഇക്കാലത്തു ആ വക രോഗങ്ങൾക്കും പ്രത്യേക ആശുപത്രി ഇല്ലെന്നുള്ളതു് പരിതാപകരമായ ഒരു വസ്തുതയാണ്. സാംക്രമിക രോഗങ്ങൾ പിടിപെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളവരെ മററു രോഗികളുടെ സമീപത്തായി

[Srimathi P. Thankama.]

കിടത്തുന്നതു രോഗവ്യാപ്തിക്കനുകൂലമാണെന്നു പ്രത്യേകം പറയേണ്ടതില്ലല്ലോ. ചില ആശുപത്രികളിൽ വാർഡുകൾ വേറേ തിരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ഈച്ചകൾക്കും കൊതുകുകൾക്കും രോഗബീജങ്ങളെ ആപ്രേഷണം മററു സുഖക്കേടുകൾക്കും വിധേയരായി ക്ഷീണിച്ചു കിടക്കുന്ന രോഗികളിൽ പകർത്താതിരിക്കാൻ അതു പര്യാപ്തമാണെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. അതിനാൽ അവയ്ക്കും പ്രത്യേക സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ പ്രത്യേക ആശുപത്രികൾ തന്നെ വേണമെന്നാണ് എനിക്കു് പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്.

Sahib Bahadur Mr. K. M. Mackar Pillai (*Nominated*): സർ; കഴിഞ്ഞ മൂന്നുനാലു കൊല്ലങ്ങളായി ബഡ്ജററിൽ പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചിരുന്നതിലും കൂടുതൽ വരവു വർദ്ധിച്ചു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നുവെന്നു് നമുക്കെല്ലാവർക്കും ബോദ്ധ്യമുള്ള ഒരു സംഗതിയാണു്. എന്നാൽ വർദ്ധിച്ചുവരുന്ന ഈ സാമ്പത്തികനിലയെ ലാക്കാക്കി, വല്ല പുതിയ നികുതി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുകയോ, അല്ലെങ്കിൽ നിലവിലിരിക്കുന്ന നികുതികളുടെ റേറവു കൂട്ടുകയോ ചെയ്യേണ്ട ആവശ്യമുണ്ടായിട്ടില്ലെന്നു ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽസെക്രട്ടറി അവർകൾ പറയുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. എന്നാലും ആരോഗ്യത്തിനു ഒരു ചെയിഞ്ചു് വേണം. അതായതു്, സമ്പന്നന്മാരായ ആളുകൾ കുററാലത്തും പീരുമേട്ടിലും മററും ചെന്നു് താമസിക്കാറുണ്ടു് ഒരു ചെയിഞ്ചിനു വേണ്ടി, കൂടുതൽ സുഖത്തിനുവേണ്ടി, അതുപോലെ ഇവിടെയും ഒരു ചെയിഞ്ചു്. ഒരിക്കൽ ഇൻകംടാക്സിനു ഒരു വ്യത്യാസം വരുത്തി പണത്തിനുവേണ്ടിയല്ല, ഒരു ചെയിഞ്ചു. പിന്നെ എക്സസ് ഇൻകംടാക്സ് ഏർപ്പെടുത്തി. ഇപ്പോൾ പുതിയ ഒരു അഗ്രികൾച്ചറൽ ഇൻകം ടാക്സ്, ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ ചെയിഞ്ചുകൾ വളരെ നല്ലതാണു്. ഇങ്ങനെ ചെയിഞ്ചുകൾ വരുത്തുന്നതിൽ ഞാൻ ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽസെക്രട്ടറിയെ അനുമോദിക്കയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. സമ്പന്നന്മാരുടെ പണക്കൊഴുപ്പാകുന്ന ദുർമേദസ്സു ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്ന അനാരോഗ്യത്തെ ഇല്ലാതെ ആക്കുന്നതിനു ഇത്തരത്തിൽ അഗ്രികൾച്ചറൽ ഇൻകംടാക്സും എക്സസ് പ്രാഫിററ്ടാക്സും ചുമത്തുന്നതു് പററിയ ഔഷധങ്ങളാണു്. എന്നാൽ ഇവിടെയുള്ള ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്കും ആവശ്യത്തിനുള്ള മേദസ്സ് തന്നെ ഇല്ല. കഠിനമായ അദ്ധ്വാനം കൊണ്ടും പട്ടിണികൊണ്ടും അവർക്കുള്ള മേദസ്സ് നശിച്ചും വരുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു് മേദസ്സു അധികമുള്ളവരുടെ ദുർമ്മേദസ്സു കുറയ്ക്കുന്നതോടൊപ്പം ആവശ്യത്തിനുള്ള മേദസ്സ് ഇല്ലാത്തവർക്കു് മേദസ്സ് ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കുന്ന ചുമതലകൂടി ഗവൺമെൻറിനുണ്ടു്. സർ, ഭൂമിയേയും മനുഷ്യരേയും

ദൈവം സൃഷ്ടിച്ചു. ദൈവം ഇല്ലെന്നു പറയുന്ന ചിലയാളുകൾ ഇവ താനേ ഉണ്ടായതാണെന്നു പറയും. അതെങ്ങിനെയുമാവട്ടെ. അതുകൊണ്ടു എല്ലാമനുഷ്യർക്കും ഒരുവിധം സുഖമായി ജീവിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. കായികമായ വേലയുടെ ഫലമാണ് സമ്പത്തു്. ഈ സമ്പത്തുതന്നെ അദ്ധ്വാനികളുടെ രക്തവും മേദസ്സും വിയർപ്പുതുള്ളികളായിട്ടു പ്രവഹിച്ചതിന്റെ ഫലമായിട്ടാണു ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ഉണ്ണാനും ഉടുക്കാനും കിടക്കുവാനുമുള്ള സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ ഇല്ലാത്ത ഈ സാധുക്കളെക്കൊണ്ടു് രാവും പകലും വേലചെയ്യിപ്പിച്ചു പണമുണ്ടാക്കി ഇപ്പോൾ പല മുതലാളിമാരും ഭൂസ്വത്തുടമസ്ഥന്മാരായിത്തീർന്നിട്ടുണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ ഈ സാധുക്കളുടെ മേദസ്സിനു ദൂഷ്യംവരാത്തവിധത്തിൽ വേണ്ട ജീവിതസൗകര്യങ്ങൾ കൂടി അവർക്കുണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കണം. ഈ കൂലിവേലക്കാരുടെ അറിവില്ലായ്മകൊണ്ടും വിയോജിപ്പുകൊണ്ടും അവരുടെ ശക്തി അവർക്കു അറിയാൻ കഴിയുന്നില്ല. എന്നാൽ ഇപ്പോൾ അവരുടെ ശക്തി അവർ അറിഞ്ഞുതുടങ്ങി. അവർക്കു സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യവും സ്വശക്തിയും യോജിപ്പും ഉണ്ടായതോടുകൂടി മുതലാളിമാർ അവരെ ചൂഷണംചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടാണു ജീവിക്കുന്നതെന്നു് അവർക്കു മനസ്സിലായിതുടങ്ങി. അതിൽ ഏറെക്കുറെ വാസ്തവമില്ലാതില്ല. തന്മൂലം ഇവർതമ്മിലുള്ള ജീവിതമത്സരവും വർദ്ധിച്ചുവരുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു് സാമ്പത്തികപ്പോഷണത്തെ ക്രമീകരിക്കേണ്ടതു് അത്യന്താപേക്ഷിതമാണ്. സാമ്പത്തികനിലയെ ക്രമീകരിക്കുവാനും കൂടിയാണ് മതങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതു്. എന്നാൽ കുറെ കാലത്തേക്കുമാത്രമേ സാമ്പത്തികനിലയുടെ ക്രമീകരണത്തെ പാലിക്കുവാൻ മതങ്ങൾക്കു സാധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളൂ. എന്തെന്നാൽ, പുരോഹിതന്മാരിൽ പലരും പിന്നീടു വലിയ സമ്പന്നന്മാരായിത്തീർന്നിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഏതായാലും മുതലാളിതൊഴിലാളികളെ യോജിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുപോകത്തക്കവിധമുള്ള ഒരു വ്യവസ്ഥ ഗവണ്മെന്റു് നടപ്പിൽവരുത്തേണ്ടതു് ആവശ്യമാണ്. ഈ നാട്ടിലെ സ്ഥിതിയനുസരിച്ചു് ഒരാളിനോ ഒരു കുടുംബത്തിനോ ജീവിക്കുന്നതിനു് അത്യാവശ്യമെന്നുതോന്നുന്ന ഒരു സംഖ്യ നിശ്ചയിച്ചു അതിൽ കൂടുതൽവരുന്ന ആദായം മുഴുവൻ ടാക്സായി ഈടാക്കുന്നതിൽ ഞാൻ എതിരല്ല. ഇനിയുള്ള കാലം മുതലാളിമാരും വ്യവസായികളും തൊഴിലാളികളും വേലക്കാരും തമ്മിൽ മത്സരം നിമിത്തം വളരെ അസ്വാസ്ഥതയോടെ കഴിഞ്ഞുകൂടേണ്ടിവരുമെന്നു

[Mr. K. M. Mackar Pillai]

ഭയപ്പെടുന്ന ഒരാളാണു ഞാൻ. മുൻപു് നാലണ കൊടുത്താൽ ഒരു വേലക്കാരൻ ചെയ്യുവാനു ഒരു വേലക്കു ഇപ്പോൾ ഒന്നരരൂപ കൊടുത്താൽ അതിന്റെ നാലിലൊന്നുവേലപോലും ചെയ്യുകയില്ല. മനുഷ്യരുടെ പ്രയത്നമാണു് സമ്പത്തു്. ആ സമ്പത്തു് നഷ്ടപ്പെടുത്താതെ സൂക്ഷിക്കേണ്ടതു സ്റ്റേറ്റിന്റെ ഉത്തമതാൽപ്പര്യങ്ങളിൽ ഒന്നാണു്. അതിനാൽ തൊഴിലാളികളും മുതലാളികളും തമ്മിൽ ഉള്ള സൗഹാർദ്ദബന്ധത്തെ പുലർത്തുന്നതിനുള്ള നടപടികൾ എടുക്കുവാൻ ഗവൺമെന്റു് താൽപ്പര്യം പ്രകടിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതാകുന്നു.

സർ, യുദ്ധപരിതസ്ഥിതിനിമിത്തം പണം പെരുകി. തന്നിമിത്തം ദ്രവ്യത്തിനു ക്രമാതീതമായി വിലവർദ്ധിച്ചു. അതും ഈ സാധുക്കളെ വളരെ ദോഷപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടു. അവർക്കു കിടക്കാൻ സ്ഥലമില്ല. അവരിൽ പലരും ഇപ്പോൾ പാട്ടപ്പറമ്പുകളിൽ പാർക്കുന്നവരാണു. അങ്ങനെയുള്ളവരെ അവർ താമസിക്കുന്നസ്ഥലത്തുനിന്നും ഇറക്കിവിടാതിരിക്കാൻ വേണ്ട വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ജന്മികുടിയാൻ ബില്ലനുസരിച്ചു് കാണിക്കാരെ ഇപ്പോൾ അവരുടെ സ്ഥലത്തുനിന്നും മാറ്റിക്കൂടെന്നു വ്യവസ്ഥചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടല്ലോ. കാണിക്കാരെപ്പോലെ പാട്ടക്കാരും മഹാരാജാവുതിരുമനസ്സിലെ പ്രജകൾ തന്നെയാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഇവരെ താമസസ്ഥലത്തുനിന്നും മാറ്റാതിരിക്കുവാൻ വേണ്ട കരുതലുകൾ ഉടനടി ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണു്,

സർ, ഇപ്പോൾ ഏർപ്പെടുത്താൻ പോകുന്ന കാർഷികാദായ നികുതിയെപ്പറ്റി പലർക്കും തെറ്റിദ്ധാരണ ഉള്ളതായി കാണുന്നു. ഇൻകം ടാക്സ് ഈടാക്കുന്നതു ഒരാണ്ടിൽ ൨൦൦൦ രൂപാ നെറ്റു ഇൻകം ഉള്ളവരിൽനിന്നാണെന്നു കാണുന്നസ്ഥിതിക്കു് കാർഷികാദായനികുതിയെപ്പറ്റി ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഇത്ര പരിഭ്രാന്തി ഉണ്ടാകുവാനുള്ള കാരണം എന്താണെന്നു എനിക്കു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നില്ല. കണക്കു വയ്ക്കുവാനുള്ള ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൊണ്ടു് ജനങ്ങൾ വിഷമിക്കുമെന്നു മറ്റൊരുവാദം. അതിനും വലിയ അർത്ഥമില്ല. ആയിരമോ രണ്ടായിരമോ രൂപാ ആണ്ടിൽ വരവുണ്ടാകുന്നവർ കണക്കു വയ്ക്കാതെ ഇരിക്കുകയില്ല. മാത്രമല്ല ഇത്രയധികം ആദായം കിട്ടുന്നവർ ഇൻകം ടാക്സ് കൊടുക്കേണ്ടിവരുമെന്നും അതുകൊണ്ടു് അവർ കണക്കു സൂക്ഷിക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നുമുള്ള നിർബന്ധം ഉണ്ടാകുമ്പോൾ കണക്കു വെയ്ക്കാതിരിക്കുകയില്ല. മറ്റൊരുവാദം തേങ്ങായ്ക്കു കരമുണ്ടു് കൊപ്രായ്ക്കു കരമുണ്ടു് എന്നെല്ലാമാണു്. ഇതും പരിഗണിക്കേണ്ടതില്ലെന്നാണു് എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നതു്. എന്തെന്നാൽ ഈ ചെലവുകൾ എല്ലാം

ത്തുള്ളി ബാക്കിവരുന്ന ആദായത്തിന്മേലാണ് ടാക്സ് ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതു്. ഭൂസ്വത്തുക്കൾക്കും ടാക്സ് ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടല്ലോ. ഭൂസ്വത്തുക്കൾക്കു വളരെ നിസ്സാരമായ ഒരു കരം വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഇപ്പോഴും ഇത്ര വലിയ വില വർദ്ധനവു വസ്തുക്കൾക്കുണ്ടായതെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നു. ഏതായാലും വസ്തുക്കൾ എല്ലാവർക്കും കിട്ടാനുള്ള സൗകര്യംകൂടി ഗവർമെൻറു ഉണ്ടാക്കി കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണു.

Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai (*Thovala* cum *Agastiswaram*): Sir, Before I proceed to offer my remarks and observations on the Financial Secretary's speech introducing the budget, I am glad to congratulate the Financial Secretary for the salient feature of the Budget namely the brevity, clearness and soundness. The budget is both a war budget and a post-war budget. It is a budget not only for the year 1121 but a budget for years to come, as it is prepared to meet the requirements of the year and also to meet the requirements of the future generation, since it deals with the schemes of reconstruction as has been stated by the *Hindu* in its leader. It is more a reconstruction budget. There is no fresh borrowing. There is no fresh taxation but we are also glad that Toll is abolished from 1121.

We are happy to see that the revenue and expenditure for the year 1121 are 6·24 crores and 5 crores respectively leaving a surplus of 1·24 crores. It is indeed very sound and satisfactory so far as the financial state of affairs in this country is concerned. It stands next only to Mysore and Hyderabad. Though wee see a peak figure of 6 crores of income as stated by the Dewan President circumstances will lead us on to further increase of revenues and surplus in after years because our investments are mostly in nation building activities namely industrial development schemes which will surely result in greater and greater yields, though the Excise, Income-Tax etc., may vary sometimes and decrease.

Sir, there is ample provision in the Budget to invest in the development of basic industries like hydro-electric power, chemicals, fertilizers, cement etc., the consumption goods, industries like Textile, rubber, silk, paper, matches, oil, coir, tobacco etc., 74 lakhs are provided for certain items of Post-War reconstruction works *viz.*, Medical, Education, Irrigation, Road construction. It does not sacrifice normal activities of the State which costs 6 crores of rupees.

It is sound because our debt position is safe. Our General Reserve Fund, Revenue Reserve Fund, Post War Reconstruction reserve Fund come to 19·08 lakhs of rupees. Real assets aggregate

[Mr T. M. Chidambarathanu Pilli.]

to 19·74 lakhs and so ·66 lakhs is in excess of total liabilities which is less than our capital outlay which yields 2 per cent. interest. Our public debt comes only to 479 lakhs. It is satisfactory because our cash balance is 267 lakhs. We have 198 lakhs as gilt-edged securities. There is 41 lakhs in short term deposits. These reserves and resources will serve any demand, any contingency. We are within our bounds in launching big schemes as budgeted by the Financial Secretary.

Sir, we the people of this country whole heartedly welcome the change proposed by the Government in the present system of land assessment to the abolition of land tax. It is a very great and liberal measure of equity and justice. It is also an efficient and proper method to encourage agriculture which will give an impetus to the development of agriculture and consequent food production in the country. I must state that it is the second instalment in the highest gifts of His Highness the Maharaja's Government—a Magnacarta next to the epoch making Temple Entry Proclamation. On behalf of my constituency I express my deep debt of gratitude to the Government and the Dewan for the kind and sympathetic consideration of the claims of the ryots of Nanjinad to be relieved of the heavy and inequitable taxation which has been the source of long standing grievance to Nanjinad; only 41 to 42 lakhs are attributable to Land Revenue. By the abolition of the existing system of assessment the average people are benefited and the Government do not lose, they get 25 lakhs from the new tax. But there are certain minor difficulties which if properly handled, guided and controlled with a stern hand—the anticipated fear of the people about bill collectors like the Proverthicars and Income Tax Officers, will be obviated. There may not be any tharams hereafter. Difficulties regarding Tenures like melvaram, Services Inam Lands, Sri Pandara Vagai, Kandukrishi etc., are also to be cleared and adequate provisions are to be made.

I must also, as the representative of my constituency who are mainly agriculturists, express our gratitude to the Government for taking up the Perunchani Reservoir Scheme. It serves two purposes. It is found by long experience that the reservoir at Petchiparai is insufficient to meet the requirements of 65000 acres. The Government sold all available tanks and storages and the sale proceeds were appropriated towards the capital expenditure. There was a promise made by Government to irrigate the lands in Nanjinad. The Government is under an obligation to fulfil their promise to the ryots of Nanjinad. So it is the kindness of the Government

to take up such a scheme which was under consideration for a long time. Secondly it serves a good purpose for generating power-electricity. As the Dewan President himself stated, if the possibility of Hydro Electric power though only as a secondary project of the scheme is achieved by the generation of power, it can industrialise Nanjinad which will otherwise remain purely an agricultural tract. 16 lakhs is provided in the budget for the above scheme. If the power in the North and South is linked up it will be utilised not only for Travancore but the whole of South India. We will be the biggest sellers of power. In this connection I must state that though large and useful industries are started in North Travancore making unknown and obscure villages into big industrial units no investigation, no attempt was made in starting industries in South Travancore. We have a Cement Road. It pays much to Government. Administration report of the Transport Department will be justification for that. We have the Pechipara Reservoir. It is a productive and remunerative measure. The Perunchani Scheme will fetch according to the statement of the Financial Secretary 5 to 6 per cent interest. A leather factory can be opened. A pottery factory can be opened. Our ladies all over the country prefer Travancore Pottery works especially from Kottar, Eraniel and Thuckalay. Our soil in certain centres is peculiarly fit for the same. Even tile factories can be opened. We have got forest resources for paper manufacture, Straw in large quantities and other necessary things for paper making are available in Nanjinad. Weaving factories in finer counts as in famous place like Eraniel, for its nice and fine texture cloth, can be opened. Experts must be deputed to investigate and organize the same. There is ample scope for useful work in that line.

The increase of, per capita, productivity of Agriculture is basic to any improvement in the standard of living of agriculturists. In Travancore there is over population and great demand by the population for agricultural land. Only 42 cents is available per head of population. A ryot can conveniently take to cultivation about two to three acres of land. So, there is surplus population which cannot find sufficient work in agriculture. An agricultrual system will have to be found for gainful employment. People must take to other profitable pursuits, in employments like cottage industries of various kinds.

There is no agricultural school in South Travancore. There are two schools in Kottarakara and Koni. It is very difficult for our students to go there to undergo such a course of study. I have no grievance in having these schools there. We want a school or even a college in Nanjinad which is very suitable for the same. Without agricultural education on scientific lines people will follow the

[Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai.]

old and unsuitable methods of cultivation. There is a good deal of advertisement necessary as well as propaganda. "Before you teach to cultivate the soil you must touch his soul". So observed Sir S. V. Ramamurthi on the opening of the Agricultural College. We have money, starting of the medical college is postponed. We can profitably take to agriculture and veterinary study.

In the matter of Munsiffs and Second Judges, the selection now made is mostly from the practitioners in the High Court alone. There are serious complaints and legitimate grievances from the public and members of the legal profession. There are able, experienced members of the District and Munsiff's Court Bar all over the country. Their claims to recruitment are not considered properly. The principle adopted in British India must be followed. Admittedly there is over crowding and competition and suffering to a large extent. The proportion of appointments now followed is 4:1, 2:1 between the Department and Bar; I do not complain. List of eligible applicants, or candidates must be prepared and recommended by District Judges and approved by the High Court for a definite period.

There must be rotation for each District, so that there may be even distribution and no hardship.

In all cases of appointments over Rs. 100-except those which require a course of expert training or knowledge such as Medicine and Engineering a definite proportion of appoinments should go to the legal profession. The appointment of Prosecuting Inspectors, A. S. Ps., Excise Inspectors, Magistrates, Tahsildars, Devaswom Superintendents should also be reserved to the members of the legal profession.

Sir, both from the statement of the Dewan President and the speech of the Financial Secretary it is seen the Government have declared it as their policy that the existing Medical institutions in the State should be reorganised, only a selected number of them being run as high class well equipped hospitals in certain centres and others as called feeder institutions dispensaries. At present they have fixed upon Trivandrum, Quilon, Alleppey, Kottayam which may cost 5 lakhs. Last year when I urged before the honourable members in this House about including Nagercoil District Hospital as a major hospital, I feared it was only an oversight or omission. Now from what I understand from the gestures and statements it was done with a purpose. Reasons advanced for such an act are (1) existence of two famous medical Institutions one at Neyyoor and another at Putheri, mainly to provide experts to treat

special diseases for nose, throat, eyes, ears, radium etc. in these hospitals and (2) the abundance of private practitioners in Nagercoil. At once I wish to answer these matters to clear doubts. Sir, in Neyyoor and Putheri there are no provision for expert treatments for throat, eye. etc. One is favoured for some time for the dexterity of hand in the operation theatre and another for the upkeep of the hospital in an exquisite manner, in good atmosphere attracting patients mostly from British India. At Neyyoor patients go only for operation purposes.

Sir, Nagercoil is an old town known to history. Nagercoil District Hospital is more than 50 years old. In spite of private practitioners and the other two hospitals there is no dearth of patients in the District Hospital. There are about 2 lakhs of people in both the Taluks of Thovala and Agastiswaram. There is no complaint that the people in the area are pretty poor. Why not then Nagercoil District Hospital is made a major hospital.

Once again congratulating the Government and the Financial Secretary I resume my seat.

Mr. K. S. Joseph : Sir, I deem it a privilege to be called upon to offer my remarks on the Budget and the Budgetary policy. But before I do so, I would join the Financial Secretary in expressing gratification and pleasure that we all have at the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front which carries with it, not merely the Victory of the Allies but the Victory of Democracy over the forces of reaction, Facism, and Nazicism. Equally if not more I prize the victory of Democracy on the British Home Front. I mean the crushing victory of the Labour Party, in the British Elections, and I do hope that its reverberations and repurcussions will reach this far corner of the world too and what some time before the Head of the Administration said may not be possible, might be sooner made possible, I mean the democratisation of His Highness the Maharaja's Government.

Now, let me pass on to the Budget. The greater part of the Dewan's elucidation of the Budgetary policy was baised on the twin programme of industrialisation and post-war reconstruction, Certainly, I cannot find fault with Government or anybody who suggests that industrialisation is the crying need of the hour. In India, the people have been crying for it for a very long time. Soon as the war started, and even before it, if the Government had acceded to the request of the industrialists, probably India would have had a different tale to say and might in all probability have emulated, or even surpassed the efforts of Canada and Australia in this matter. Therefore, I say, I cannot find fault with any policy

[Mr. K. S. Joseph.]

of industrialisation, in fact, in a country like Travancore which is perhaps one of the most thickly populated parts of the world, people cannot depend upon agriculture either solely or for its mainstay. Therefore, industrialisation of the country is alright. But the question is only this, Are we marching carefully? Are we marching after taking proper statistics of the possibilities of the industries here? Or, are we launching blindly or leaping into the dark blindly. That is the question. I would therefore confine my remarks to the possible pitfalls, drawbacks of the Budget, from that point of view, the congratulatory part being left to others.

Sir, looking at the industries we started before or during the war, I do not find very much room to be optimistic as the Dewan. I would rather join the company of the Financial Secretary in being a little more modest. Thanks to the war, the Rubber Factory has been able to give us some profit. But before the War it had a sad tale of woe to tell us.

President: The honourable member is not quite correct. The moment the managements changed, Rubber Factory began to bring profit.

Mr. K S. Joseph: May I know when the management changed? Is it after or before the starting of the war?

President: In 1938 the management changed. Up to 1937 when it was managed exactly with the same personnel there was not a single new man brought into the Rubber Factory, the management was there, the chemicals had to be purchased-every month showed only deficit. Some of the chemicals disappeared and they had to be retrieved from various places. But the moment the management changed during the war, profit began to appear.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: Now, let me go on to the Porcelain industry. Of course during the war that industry too had been making profit.

The House rose for lunch at 2 p. m., and re-assembled at 3 p. m.

President: Order, order. I have the figures now.

In regard to the Rubber Factory, in the prewar years 1938-1939, the venture ended in a loss of about fifty to sixty thousand rupees which is recovered from the lessees. In 1940-1941 when the management was changed over, the profit was Rs. 12,386. In 1941-1942 the profits were Rs. 5,05,341. In 1942-43 the profits were Rs. 6,72,542 and in 1943-44, they were Rs. 4,08,168. That was due to the fact that we put in a larger reserve. The Reserve is now five lakhs.

Similarly, in regard to Sugar, until the present management was started, the loss suffered was Rs. 1,25,000. Now, the Government themselves are getting a definite profit of half a lakh Rupes and, as shareholders, they are getting a profit which is not less than seven to eight per cent.

Mr. V. N. Padmanabha Pillai (*Parur, Kunnathunad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Sir, I propose that the general discussion of the Budget may be extended till lunch time on Monday.

President: I have no objection; but there is one difficulty which honourable members may realise. It may be just possible, according to the latest information that in the course of the day the surrender of Japan may be announced. If so, the Government of India and the English Government would have a two-days-holiday and it is a matter entirely for the House to decide what we are going to do. If they are going to sit inspite of the holidays, they might do so; but it is a matter which might give rise to misconception. It is only on Monday afternoon that we are likely to know the definite peace terms that have been offered. Then we may have to announce two holidays, that is on Monday and Tuesday. It is rather previous now to state this, and I hope the newspapers would not take this down.

Moreover, another aspect must also be borne in mind. We must finish the Budget before the 1st of Chingom, that is by the 32nd of this month. So, in any case, we shall have probably only two days for the demands. There is one way of meeting the difficulty. It is a rather extreme step, but it is entirely left to the honourable members. I am not disparaging this House, but according to the rules of the House the voting is either voting down a grant or voting in favour of a grant. If honourable members think that a general discussion would be of greater use, I have the power to give the maximum of four days to it. I can really enable honourable members to speak on the Budget for any number of days provided there is a maximum of four days for demands. If honourable members would think over the whole matter and come to some kind of understanding, whatever that suggestion be, I am willing to follow. If any honourable member has to make any specific suggestions now, he may do so.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath: I think it may be extended to lunch time on Monday.

Mr K. G. Narayana Panicker (*Mavelikara and Tiruvalla* cum *Pathanamthitta*): Sir, I too think that it may be extended to Monday.

President: Is it for the whole of Monday?

The question that the discussion may be for the whole of Monday was put to vote and declared lost.

President: I will put it the other way.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: Sir, I would like to know whether the general discussion will be continued till Monday and the demands put together for vote—which is the course that the President suggests?

President; Under the Rules, the budget shall be dealt with by the Council in two stages: (a)—General discussion, and (b) Voting of demands for grants.

> **"On a day to be appointed by the Dewan subsequent to the day on which the budget is presented and for such time as the Dewan may allot for this purpose, the Council shall be at liberty to discuss the budget as a whole."**

So taken, it can be discussed for one day or for more than one day on any question of principle. But "not more than four days shall be allotted by the Dewan for the discussion by the Council of the demands of the Government for grants and not more than half a day shall be allotted to the discussion of any one demand." So, there is no objection for taking one day for the demand or two days for the General discussion. All that is possible. Whatever the House decides, I shall adopt.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: I propose that the discussion may be till Monday noon.

Sahib Bahadur M. Mahomed Mustafa (*Commerce and Industry South*): Sir up to noon Monday—after that you can put the demands as usual.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: For the whole of Monday the discussion should go.

The question that the discussion should proceed till lunch time on Monday was put to vote and carried.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: Sir, I was referring to the Porcelain Industy of Travancore. As the President announced just a while ago, the war with Japan is over, when we settle down to peaceful reorganisation, we shall have to meet with great competition from........

President: I have in justice to the honourable member to say that they are definitely producing inferior things because they are merely catering for the War Department and not for the general market. The War Department has stated that they do not want superior stuff and that is the reason why the Kundara Factory does not want to produce thin or semitransparent Porcelain. But the factory is capable of producing superior products. I can understand and appreciate what the honourable member says.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: Sir, what I was suggesting was that with the plants and things now available, I do not think that we will be able so much as to show our face in the market, much less to compete in the World Market.

Then, as regards the Plywood Industry which has been started here at first, it had its beginning in a palacial building opposite to the Town Hall. From there it went to a less ambitious place near the Science College, thence I do not know where. Rumour says that everything is not all right with the industry.

President: It is a private concern; we have nothing to do with it. We have only a share in the profit.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: Yes, Sir, the Government have a share in the Plywood Industry. Of course, the other two concerns were also subscribed to by the Government to a large extent and I was under the impression that as in other cases 51 per cent. of the shares were also contributed to by the Government in this concern.

President: No. How much is it, Mr. Financial Secretary.

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar: Out of the 5000 shares, only, 700.

President: That is about one-seventh.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: Sir, I took it that it was 51 per cent of the total number of shares because it was announced that the policy of the Government in regard to these industrial concerns would be...

President: Order, order. In all concerns which are not vital, we take only a nominal share just to show interest in the concern. In the Rayon Factory with a capital of two crores, which will be coming into existence within the next two weeks, the Government are taking a very small amount of share, because we do not consider that it is a vital industry, but only a commercial proposition which involves a certain amount of risk and speculation and that Government's money should not be ventured. Similarly, in the Motor-Tyre Manufactory, which is likely to be started with a capital of four crores and which might come into existence within the next four weeks, Government may take a much less number of shares. It may roughly come to one-thirtieth of the whole number of shares, and here again, Government think that it is a commercial venture. In industries which are necessary for the welfare of the State, like Transport ventures, Boat traffic, the Fertisilers and Chemicals, the Government are more vitally concerned. As regards agricultural fertilisers, it depends upon the question of sulphuric acid which will have a reaction on the mineral sands and, therefore,

[President.]

we have taken fifty-one per cent. of the total number of shares. Where Government have a natural monopoly and where the industry is vital to the interests of the country, we take 51 per cent; in all others where there is not so much from the point of view of national interest, we take only a less number of shares to show the general interest in the concerns.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: Sir, I was saying that in all these concerns there is not efficient machinery and plants which are expected in each industry if it is to compete in Post-war periods in the world markets. It does not require a prophetic mind to say that we may be thrown into an abyss after the war when America and other countries come in for competition. Similarly, in Chemicals and Fertilisers; we are starting an industry which is, as the President put it, a vital industry. But even in that sphere, I am afraid, we are going to have a strong competition......

President: I do not think that is quite correct, because, as honourable member knows and I am glad to tell you that after a certain amount of correspondence, the Government of India have decided not to start any factory which will be working in competition with ours in the South of India. In other words, any factory which the Government of India starts will only be in the Cocanada or Bezwada areas. Moreover, the Government are partners with us and they have taken twenty lakhs of rupees worth of shares. They have also agreed to take two-fifths of the whole produce or forty-five per cent. of the whole production as soon as the production is made. We have similarly agreements with the Governments of Cochin and Madras, practically 50 per cent. of the produce of the company will be purchased by these Governments and the Government of Pudukottah. The Government of India have also been good enough to tell us that they will not for a certain number of years start any factory which will be in competition with us.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: That is very encouraging Sir.

Sir, the President has announced the starting of a cement company......

President: I am glad to say that the Associated Cement Company is coming to terms in this matter and they are in the course of this afternoon or tomorrow coming to an agreement whereby I hope to start a scheme in which a hundred thousand tons could be manufactured in co-operation with them.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: In co-operation, Sir?

President: Yes.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: That is very reassuring, Sir. In the face of competitions, we should not jump into these things. I am very glad to note that having no very serious competition in these matters we may safely launch into them. Even then I would add one word of caution. Could we not wait for 2 or 3 years more for the turmoil to settle down than suddenly to jump into such enterprises? By that time we would be getting new plants. That is a question which this House and the Government have to consider. If we get the plants now we are likely to get the pre-war plants. If I understand correctly......

President: I do not think it is correct. The Government of India have made arrangements with the Government of Great Britain to get down a certain number of new plants and I believe 14 or 15 new plants have been earmarked for India out of which they propose to hand over 9 or 10 plants to the All India Cement Company and 2 or 3 to the Dalmia Cement Company and the rest will be distributed according to the discretion of the Government of India. The idea of this Government was to get down one of those plants if we had to work in competition with the All India Cement Company. But I do not think it will be necessary to work in competition with them. We are likely to get one plant out of the 14 or 15 plants which are made available to India by Great Britain.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: In America and England, I am told that they change their plants very often.

President: I am sorry to interrupt the honourable member so often. Honourable members will realise that especially in the matter of cement there is likely to be a competition between various countries which have to remake their road system. Every bombed country in Europe, in Asia, Borneo, Burma and other countries will have to remake their roads and the demand for cement plants will be great. We have been warned by the Government of India that unless we place our orders quickly we may not be able to get those plants. We have found by experience that if we have a cement concrete road we save a great deal by way of motor tyres, spare parts etc. and we save much more than the cost for a cement concrete road. So we have decided to cement concrete all our trunk roads in North Travancore. The Government of India have warned us that if we do not get down these plants beforehand, other competing countries like China, Russia, to a certain extent Belgium, Holland, and France are likely to get them and it will be difficult for us to get them afterwards.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: So long as we will be free from competition it is......

President: At the same time I fully realise that buying at this time means that we are buying at a dear market and it is likely that the prices and wages will go down. Honourable members may rest assured that if Government feel that by waiting we shall not lose more than by going in to buy now, we shall not rush in with those orders. So, some of the orders have not been definitely placed and we are postponing them. Only those orders which are urgently required have been placed.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: That is exactly the point that I wish to place before the House. We have to be very cautious in these matters.

The Dewan in his speech to this House said that unlike what happened in the case of other industries sponsored by Government the average Travancorean has taken shares. I submit that it only shows the sagacity of Travancore. Travancore Capital is shy because it has not been reassured that the capital sunk in these concerns is going to fetch their proper returns. If and when they feel that the concerns undertaken or sponsored by the Government are safe, capital will be forthcoming. Therefore it may not be very necessary in such cases to hunt for capital to the other side of the ghats.

Attached to that is the question of foreign and home capital. The President put it the other day that he could not understand how capital from 15 miles on the other side of Shencottah could be considered foreign capital. It may not be correct to say 'foreign'. But it seems to me that so long as we are not united together under the same Government, under the same body politics, we have to consider such capital as outside capital even as men coming from outside in the matter of politics are considered outsiders. If in politics they are considered outsiders surely I claim in economics too they are outsiders. There is also another reason why local capital has been shy. Our political prophet Mr. Satyanesan has made a suggestion in the issue of the 'Bharathi' dated the 20th in which he has made a survey of the activities of bankers and their associations with political organisations like the State Congress and has advised me to withdraw from a certain financial concern with which I was concerned. Needless to say that I accepted his advice.

President: Why?

Mr. K. S. Joseph: Because almost all his political prophecies have come true, Sir.

Now let me pass on to the control and the control measures adopted by Government during the war period. I may refer to page 255 of the budget "Detailed Account No. 44 A.—Food and other control measures." I see that that item has been taken to the non-votable heads, by an asterisk mark placed against it.

President: You can speak on it, but not vote on it.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: So I take this opportunity to speak on it. Last year I complained that I did not see any reason why these control measures and the amounts thereunder should not be brought under the votable heads. The Chief Secretary then told that as these were under the Debt Heads they could be voted upon. This year that difficulty does not arise because it has been taken over to the non-votable head. Sir, this, coupled with the fact that the Government have not been able, so far, to furnish us the Profit and Loss Account of the Food Control Department—even for the year 1118—make me think that there is something seriously wrong, let me say with Hamlet something rotten in the state of.....

President: Unfortunately we are not getting accounts from other Governments. We expect them very soon. As soon as the balance is struck, final full accounts are proposed to be placed before the public. At this moment they are regarded as confidential for the simple reason that during the period of crises if the actual price we paid for certain articles and the prices at which they were sold should be made known, advantage will be taken by other administrations and states who are selling them to us. At present certain verification of stock is going on in each go-down. As soon as the accounts are consolidated and by the end of the year when I expect practically all our stock will be checked and consolidated, honourable members may take it from me that Government propose to place on the table of both the Houses of the Legislature complete accounts from the very beginning to the end. It is kept confidential only at this moment when each administration is selling us grains at different rates and we have to bargain with each of them. It is because one administration may not say that the other administration was treated differently and give rise to worse circumstances for us that we, at the present moment, keep them in the sense in which it is called 'confidential'. Honourable members may take it from me that complete audited balance sheet and Profit and Loss accounts will be available to them as soon as the situation permits the accounts being placed before the Houses and the opinion of the two branches of the Legislature will be taken on these transactions.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: This House has been told that this Government and the Cochin Government almost always took their stock together and transported them together. Hence I raise this

[Mr. K. S. Joseph.]

question. From the reports I happened to see published in the papers of this State—I had a copy of the Malayala Rajyam, but I misplaced it somewhere—according to the accounts of the Cochin Government they made in the year 1118 a profit of Rs. 1,47,000. Deducting the salaries of the staff they made about Rs. 14,000 net profit. If they could have given an account like that, I was unable, nor am I able, now to see why our Government could not have done the same thing. And therefore it is that I said that there is something rotten. It is for the Government to explain how and why.

President: I believe they have said that they lost Rs. 7 to 8 lakhs altogether.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: Here we have been warned by Government that we should be happy if we get away with a loss of only a crore of rupees! All these control measures, I am sorry to say, have been administered rather in a loose way. I hope no body here would be surprised if I say that black marketing in rice was rather the order of the day than the exception.

Last year one honourable member of this House moved a resolution that the poorer classes who did not and could not produce more than two to three hundred paras of paddy, may be exempted from selling to Government the quota that the Government insisted upon according to the settlement pattom rates. But then, the Director of Food Supplies pointed out that the greatest portion of the paddy available in Travancore came from those people. That was a surprising remark to hear. In Travancore, paddy landowners are very few and I dare say that they form no more than two or three per cent. of the population. Of this, by far the larger number of people are, of course, small holders. The big holders who have been assessed to agricultural income tax were people who could have afforded to sell much more to Government and Government could have got much more, if only the concerned staff had been more vigilant.

Let me now speak about the cloth and yarn control. I am sorry to say that the distribution of cloth and yarn has been done in the most haphazard way. I might even say it was maldistribution. During the last meeting of this House, the Textile Commissioner answered a certain interpellation that cloth was distributed according to the importance of the place. When I asked for elucidation of the word 'importance of the place', the Textile Commissioner suggested that it meant places where larger number of people resided. So, I put the question; "Does the honourable member suggest that people in unimportant places need not dress

properly ?" I wish to bring to the notice of the Government as strongly as I could, the fact that even now there are pakuthies in Travancore which have not received even a yard of cloth. I have been receiving complaints almost every week.

President: Order, order. There were certain complaints received by Government and it was found very difficult to deal with the situation. At first the Government were extremely anxious, and in view to their repeated declarations in favour of the all-important position of the co-operative movement, Government entrusted the work of distribution to the Co-operative Societies. When we did that, we received complaints galore against these societies on the ground that they were factious and biassed. Therefore, Government were forced to abandon that machinery. The Taluk Committees were then constituted under the aegis of the Textile and Additional Textile Commissioners; but there were complaints about the Taluk Committees also. Then the opinion of the legislature was elicited and now a Central Committee has been constituted and the Government are quite willing to leave the entire work of distribution to the Central Committee and they have directed the Textile Commissioner to follow the advice of the Central Board. Would the honourable member consider in what way an improvement can take place?

Mr. S. Veeriah Reddiar (*Commerce and Industry, North*): സർ, തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ, ബ്രിട്ടീഷിൻഡ്യയിലെപ്പോലെ വളരെ അധികം തുണികൾ വിതരണം ചെയ്യുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി വരുത്തുന്നുണ്ട്. അവിടെയുള്ളവർക്ക് തുണി കിട്ടുന്നില്ല എന്നുള്ള പരാതി ഉണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നു ഞാൻ സംശയിക്കുന്നു. എന്നാലും ആളുകൾ ഏതാണ്ട് ഒരു പരിഭ്രമത്തോടുകൂടി കടയിൽ കണ്ടമാനം കയറി ആവശ്യമില്ലാതെ ......

President: Order, order. I will give you a turn to speak. (*Laughter*).

Mr. K. S. Joseph: The Committee was constituted two months ago but I am sorry to say that it has not begun to function yet.

Mr. K. G. Narayana Panickar: തിരുവല്ലാതാലൂക്ക കമ്മിററിയിലേക്ക് സി. കോട്ടാവിതരണം നടത്തേണ്ട കച്ചവടക്കാരുടെ ലിസ്ററു അയച്ചുകൊടുക്കാൻ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടു ടെക്സ്റ്റയിൽ കമ്മീഷണരുടെ എഴുത്തു വന്നതനുസരിച്ചു കമ്മററികൂടുകയും ലിസ്ററു അയച്ചുകൊടുക്കുകയും ചെയ്തതായി മെമ്പർക്കറിയാമോ?

Mr. K. S. Joseph: That is not the question. I was referring to the Central Committee. My honourable friend has made a mistake.

President : Order, order. Has not the committee met?

Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai : It has met.

Mr. K. S. Joseph : May I know when it met?

Mr. A. N. Sathyanesan : ആ കമ്മററി ഒരു മാസത്തിനു മുമ്പുകൂടി എന്ന വിവരം മെമ്പർക്കറിയാമോ?

Mr. K. S. Joseph : I am not aware. But nothing has been done so far in this respect.

President : I should be very grateful to the honourable member if I could get any suggestion as to whether there is any way of improving the method of distribution. We have now left it to the Central Committee which is composed of about 15 people. The Committee have been given the fullest authority to put themselves into touch with the Taluk Committee and Government have decided that whatever method of distribution they adopt, we shall automatically accept.

Mr. K. S. Joseph : Much of the trouble has been due to one factor. I think that the licensing of merchants was not properly done. Originally I think the licensing authority was the Division Peishkar. Then the work went to the Textile Commissioner and finally the Additional Textile Commissioner was entrusted with the work. In view of these ramblings many of the applications got stuck up or were lost, so that those who were doing piece-goods trading failed to get licenses in time while those who had no pretences to any kind of trade got licences! Within two-hundred yards of this very Council hall there are people who got licences and quota, but who were not merchants before the war.

That is why I said there was maldistribution. The President said during the last meeting of this House that the Government of India were prepared to give us 1,200 bales per month. But the merchants tell us—the buyers of cloth and not members—that onl so much was given to them. I do not know where the mistake lies. Whether the quota was given or whether it escaped on the way—nobody knows. The distribution does not seem to suggest that all the quota have arrived in the State.

Closely allied to cloth is the yarn position. Government are the sole importers of yarn and yet any amount of yarn is available in the black market. Why and how, it is for the Government to find out; but this much may be said. Those who are depending on their looms for their livelihood, those who depend for their living on their nets they make for catching fish, do not get enough yarn for their use. The others who do not live upon these trades somehow manage to get yarn and sell it in the black market. I had

sent an interpellation asking the Government if they could furnish the number of looms that were working in the State at the beginning of the war and how many of them were of 10, 20, 40 and higher counts? I have not been given an answer. Therefore I presume that Government have not got those figures. No wonder therefore, that maldistribution has taken place.

Another very interesting feature is this. Certain licenced merchants are allotted quotas. Strange to say, the invoices, instead of reaching the particular man, reach somebody else in some quarter. That is a very peculiar state of affairs. The licensee has a name, he has got a number for his licence and there is a place in which he trades. In spite of these details, these invoices for quota travel from one place to another without the knowledge of the merchant concerned. These are matters which require the earnest attention and investigation of the Government. In fact a letter that I sent to the Textile Commissioner was on this matter. I said in that letter: "Here is a complaint on these grounds. Will you kindly make enquiries and find out what the real trouble is" I also suggested that if the invoices showing the quota allotted to merchants were not giving the licence number of the merchants, those details ought to be given from that date onwards. I do not know whether the Commissioner will comply with my request or not. It is for me to suggest; and I have done so.

I next come to the question of essential goods. The other day I was talking to a merchant and I was shocked to hear that some of the essential goods like fountain-pens, razor blades, time-pieces, watches, etc., were not properly supplied to Travancore, because the Madras Regional Commissioner thought that we were not very vigilant in the matter of prosecuting culprits. On going through the question it occured to me that he might not be far wrong. Therefore I sent an interpellation during this session in which I asked for the number of cases that were detected, the number of cases in which prosecution was conducted and the number of cases that ended in conviction. I hope I will get the answer before the session concludes.

President: I think you will get the answer.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: I hope so. Anyway, so far as I am aware, there have not been many cases which ended in conviction. I have seen from the papers ....

President: Order, order. At first there was a certain amount of difficulty raised by the importing merchants. They said that there were complications about the landed cost, and so about 50 or 60 cases which were originally filed were all withdrawn and a kind of general pardon was extended to everybody and they

[President]

were told that thereafter no case that was filed would be withdrawn, and that the Government would proceed with the prosecution of those cases. Notwithstanding that, petitions from the members of the Legislature and other leading men have come, asking for withdrawl of prosecutions against various persons. But this Government have not withdrawn even a single case of prosecution that has been filed. A very large number of convictions has been made; about 200 convictions have already taken place. I am sorry to say that in British India whereas a large number of very small men have been sent to several terms of rigorous imprisonment and fined up to Rs. 1,500 and more, no action has been taken against the leading black marketers in the country, whose names are well known both to this Government and the people at large. Not a single action has been taken against the chief black marketing concerns. But here, we have not made any distinction between the high and low, and practically every important person including, I think, members of this honourable legislature (Laughter) have been prosecuted and a certain number of prosecutions are pending. The intention of Government is not to make any distinction, but the fact that the magistracy has got a soft corner for the black market may still exist. There is no getting away from that. Judging from the sentences that the magistrates impose, I believe their sympathies are towards the black market.

Mr. K S. Joseph: I suggest that softness may be with Government and not with the Magistracy.

President: How can it be? I shall myself be glad if rigorous imprisonment is imposed in cases where the crime is really serious. But this Government, whatever people might say, cannot possibly interfere with the magistracy. I can, however, say that sentences so far imposed have in certain cases been ridiculous and Government have not hesitated to express that opinion either here or elsewhere.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: I was suggesting that the magistracy ought to be strict. It should be a matter for the Government to show clemency.

President: Neither the Government nor this House can deal with it. It is for the High Court to deal with it.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: When the Administration of Justice comes up for discussion I may be allowed to deal with it.

I would suggest, therefore, that the crime investigation branch of the Police Department address themselves more vigorously to this task than to the task of following the political suspects.

I entirely agree with the remarks offered by Mr. Park regarding this retrospective taxation. I heard complaints from a large number of arecanut dealers to the effect that some of them met

together and drew up certain resolutions for being addressed to Government. They complained that the goods which they sent out months ago were being charged retrospectively. If that information is correct, I submit that it does not seem fair to do so.

Finally I would touch on the question of civil liberties. I was not able to discuss it yesterday because the House evidently did not give much importance to civil liberties. Before saying anything more about it, I might add, that is not because I see eye to eye with the communists in political aspects—nor does my party see eye to eye with the communists in this respect—but because of my conviction—and it was on the sole responsibility of myself and mine only, and not of my party—that I tried to move that adjournment motion. What struck me most was this. When the Government have enough legal and other machinery to deal with the delinquents, why should civil liberties be curtailed as a sort of preventive measure? Of course, preventive measures may be necessary in times of stress like the war.

President: In regard to the communist party, I think I might say this. Originally Government were very keen and anxious to give them all possible chance for self-expression. The opinion of this Government on the communist party has been fairly definite, because they considered that the communist party either means what it says or it does not. Does the communist party mean that religion should be disestablished, and that all land and property should be nationalised? If so, this Government came to the conclusion that the preaching of that doctrine would be deleterious during war time, especially when there was a general tension, and therefore they were not very keen on giving much liberty to them. At the same time, Government did not want to prevent the communist party from having their own meetings and demonstrations, provided they could be sure that they would not lead to trouble. But, liberty having been given to them to organise demonstrations and meetings in Alleppey and in certain other localities, what I learned was that about ten or fifteen thousand people gathered together and practically overawed the citizens. There were numerous complaints from Alleppey about the manner in which the procession and those demonstrations were conducted and that they went about the streets shouting "Inquilab Sindabad", "Long live revolution" and so forth. There were also numerous representations from various sections of the population, and so the Government decided that demonstrations conducted like that were neither proper nor safe during a period of war. That is why there has been a certain restriction imposed on the communists. It will be seen that this is not confined to the State. The Government of India were anxious—though rather unnaturally to be sympathetic towards the communists because their doctrine is the same as that

[President]

of the Soviet Republic with whom they are allied in close bonds. The Government of India were very tender to the communists, a little more tender than this Government ever was. But the Government of India have had to revise their opinion of the Communist Party in India and their particular manifestations.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: I can quite understand that. If, as you suggested, they are getting out of bounds.........

President: If the Honourable Member will ask any member from Alleppey what took place ther, he will probably know.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: If they go out of bounds they may be declared an illegal party. If they resort to measures which are illegal and cannot, on any account, be countenanced by Government, of course they can be declared illegal. But so long as they remain legal, should civil liberty be curtailed? That was the point I wanted to stress.

I want to refer in a minute to the eggs control. Before the war, the export of eggs was confined to about half a dozen merchants. Once the control was introduced it went to the hands of 90 odd merchants! Where these 90 came from and what right they had to pounce upon the others who had built the trade for years, nobody knows. I also understand that two or three out of these 90 are people who used to remain outside Travancore and take the merchandise of the people from here in Madras and Madura. I do not know how they came to Travancore when the control system came.

Another point about it is, before the war a much bigger quantity than at present—I believe about 1,15,000 is being exported now.

President: 1,15,000 eggs are given to the military.

Mr K. S. Joseph: Travancore used to produce and export a much bigger quantity.

President: 1,15,000 is what this Government have agreed to give to the military authorities. What took place was that the military authorities wanted to buy themselves and decided on buying from three merchants. Two of those merchants are those whom the honourable member adverted to. They had nothing to do with Travancore. But they had done rather good business with the military authorities (laughter) and so they were chosen and this Government was asked to give facilities to these merchants to get all the eggs from Travancore and hand them over to the military authorities. This Government said that all people who had built up the trade during the last five or six years and who could show figures of exports, should be chosen; so that we sent out notifications and asked for people to produce their account books and chose about 90 or 95 people who had been conducting

business in the export of eggs, and who could show by their books that they were buying and exporting eggs. We insisted that the military orders should be extended to all the people who could show that they have been in the trade. Now that the war is coming to an end, of course the control will also come to an end. Any way it will be over in two or three months.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: Out of these 90, even now only five or six are doing the business. The others are making a trade of their licences.

President: Very likely.

Mr. K. S. Joseph: In regard to tapioca I must say that we made a mess with regard to the flour. We have lost a market, I am afraid, once for all. Even when Government decided to lift or partially lift the ban on the export of tapioca flour, it came rather too late in the year. If it was done three months earlier, probably the cultivators would have had much more, infinitely more, advantage than they have just now. I would make one suggestion with regard to the control of flour. It was stated by the Dewan that it was absolutely necessary to keep up the standard of purity of the stuff that is exported from here. I entirely agree. But that can be decided by an expert posted at the customs office. If it is not proper stuff, let him send it back. It is the look out of the merchants to see that it is proper stuff. If it is not, the stuff can be sent back. Instead of that, if one particular agency, whatever it be, is entrusted with the task of looking after the fineness or quality of the stuff, the ordinary producer will not get half his deserts

President: I am afraid you have exceeded your time.

Mr. S. Veeriah Reddiar: ൧൧൨൧-ലേക്ക് സമർപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ബഡ്ജററ് ഏററവും തൃപ്തികരമായിരിക്കുന്നുവെന്നു കാണുന്നതിൽ ഞാൻ ഗവൺമെൻറിനെയും ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സിക്രട്ടറിയെയും അനുമോദിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. യുദ്ധാനന്തരപദ്ധതികൾക്കായി മുൻകൂട്ടി വേണ്ട ഏർപ്പാടുകൾ ചെയ്യുന്നതിലേക്കുള്ള തുക ബഡ്ജററിൽ കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും കച്ചവടക്കാരുടെ വിഷമങ്ങൾ തീർക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള യാതൊരു സംരംഭങ്ങളും അടുത്തയാണ്ടിൽ നടത്താൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നാണു ബഡ്ജററുകൊണ്ടു കാണുന്നത്. ഇപ്പോൾ കച്ചവടക്കാരെ ഒരു ജയിൽ മുറിക്കകത്തു ഇട്ടിരിക്കുന്നതുപോലെയാണ് അനുഭവം. കച്ചവട പെർമിററുകൾ ഇപ്പോൾ വളരെ കുറച്ച് മാത്രമേ കിട്ടുന്നുള്ളു. പരിമിതമായ പെർമിററു് ചിലർക്കു അതു വിൽക്കാറു്. ഈ സാമാനങ്ങൾ കച്ചവടസ്ഥലത്തു കൊണ്ടുപോവാൻ പണ്ടത്തെക്കാൾ വളരെ വിഷമങ്ങൾ ഇപ്പോൾ ഉണ്ട്. ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ടിന് മുൻപിലത്തേക്കാൾ പത്തിരട്ടി ചെലവ് ഇപ്പോഴുണ്ട്. വള്ളമാണെങ്കിൽ, കിട്ടുകയില്ല. ലോറി ചാർജ് വളരെ

[Mr. S. Veeriah Reddiar]

കൂടുതലാണ്. ഇത്ര കഷ്ടപ്പെട്ട് കിട്ടുന്ന സാമാനങ്ങൾകൊണ്ടുവന്നു ക്ലിപ്തപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്ന വിലയ്ക്കു വിററാൽ മൊത്തക്കച്ചവടക്കാർക്ക് പറയത്തക്ക ലാഭമൊന്നും കിട്ടാനിടയില്ല. പിന്നെ ചില്ലറ കച്ചവടക്കാർക്ക് കുറച്ചുലാഭം കിട്ടുന്നുണ്ട്. ആ ചരക്കുകൾ തയ്യൽക്കടക്കാർ വാങ്ങി എങ്ങനെയെങ്കിലും ബ്ലാക്കുമാർക്കററുകളിൽ വിററു ലാഭമെടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടായിരിക്കാം. അതിന് പൊതുവെ കച്ചവടക്കാരെ—ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരായാലും ശരി, അനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരായാലും ശരി, ഇവർ, അമിതമായ ആദായം എടുക്കുന്നവരാണെന്ന് ആക്ഷേപിക്കുന്നതു വളരെ സങ്കടമാണ്. അഭിമാനമുള്ളവർക്ക് ഇപ്പോൾ കച്ചവടം ചെയ്യുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ലാഭത്തിൻെറ കഥയാണെങ്കിൽ അങ്ങേ അററത്തെ ചെറിയ കച്ചവടക്കാർക്കാണ് കൂടുതൽ ലഭിക്കുന്നതെന്ന് ഞാൻ മുൻപു പറഞ്ഞല്ലോ. ടെക്സ്റൈറലിൻെറ കാര്യം തന്നെ എടുക്കാം. ബോംബെയിൽനിന്നും വളരെ ക്ലേശങ്ങളും പണച്ചെലവും സഹിച്ച് ൧൦൦ രൂപയ്ക്ക് തുണിയെടുത്തു ഇവിടെകൊണ്ടുവന്നു വിററാൽ, ഒരുരൂപാപോലും ലാഭം കിട്ടുകയില്ല. എന്നാൽ ഇടത്തരം കച്ചവടക്കാർക്ക് ആ ചരക്ക് പോകുമ്പോൾ മൂന്നുരൂപാവരെ കിട്ടുന്നുണ്ട്. ചില്ലറ കച്ചവടക്കാർക്കാകട്ടെ പത്തുരൂപാ ആദായം കിട്ടും. ഈ നിലയിൽ മൊത്തക്കച്ചവടക്കാർക്ക് ഈ യുദ്ധകാലപരിതസ്ഥിതിയിൽ ധാരാളം ശമ്പളക്കാരെയും മററും ഏർപ്പെടുത്തി വലിയ കെട്ടിടവാടകകളും കൊടുത്തു ഇത്ര തുച്ഛമായ ലാഭത്തിൽ കച്ചവടം നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതു ഒരു തരത്തിലും മുതലാകുകയില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ട് അവർ ബ്ലാക്കുമാർക്കററിൽ ചരക്കുകൾ വില്ക്കുന്നു എന്നല്ല ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതിന്നർത്ഥം. മൊത്തക്കച്ചവടക്കാരും ബ്ലാക്കുമാർക്കററിൽ ചരക്കുകൾ വില്ക്കുന്നില്ല. ചെറിയ കച്ചവടക്കാരിൽ ചിലർ ബ്ലാക്കുമാർക്കററിൽ ചരക്കുകൾ വില്ക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ ഇല്ലയോ എന്നു എനിക്കു നിശ്ചയമില്ല. ഇവിടെ വേറൊരു കാര്യവും ആലോചിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ചരക്കുകൾ ചുരുക്കവും ആവശ്യക്കാർ ധാരാളവും ആകുന്ന കാലത്തു ആളുകൾ തിക്കിക്കൂടി പറയുന്ന വില തരാമെന്നുപറഞ്ഞു ഈ ചെറിയ കച്ചവടക്കാരെ ആവുന്നിടത്തോളം ഉപദ്രവിച്ച് ചരക്കുകൾ മേടിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുപോകുവാൻ ബദ്ധപ്പെട്ടതിനുശേഷം അവർ ബ്ലാക്കുമാർക്കററിൽ വില്ക്കുന്നു അവരെ കഠിനമായി ശിക്ഷിക്കേണ്ടതാണു എന്നു ഈ ജനങ്ങളും പൊതുജനപ്രതിനിധികളുംകൂടി പറയാൻ തുടങ്ങിയാൽ എന്താണു ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു. അവർ ചെയ്യുന്നതു ശരിയാണ് എന്നു എനിക്കു അഭിപ്രായമില്ല. എന്നാൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ കച്ചവടക്കാർ അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന ബുദ്ധി

കൂട്ടിനും അവയെപ്പററി പറഞ്ഞുപരത്തുന്ന അപവാദങ്ങൾക്കും കയ്യും കണക്കും ഇല്ല. എന്നാൽ ദൈവാധീനംകൊണ്ടു യുദ്ധം ഉടൻതന്നെ തീരുമെന്നാണു തോന്നുന്നതു്. യുദ്ധം തീർന്നു കുറെ കഴിയുമ്പോൾ കച്ചവടക്കാർ തമ്മിൽ മത്സരം തുടങ്ങും. അപ്പോൾ കച്ചവടക്കാർക്കു ഒരു ലാഭവും കിട്ടുന്ന കാലമല്ല. ആ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ടിന്റെയും മററും അസൗകര്യം ഉണ്ടാകാതെ വേണ്ട മുൻകരുതലുകൾ ഗവണ്മെന്റു ഇപ്പോഴെ നടത്തുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. പി. ഡബ്ലിയു. ഡി.-ക്ക് തന്നെ അതിനു നടപടികൾ നടത്തേണ്ടതാണു്.

സർ, ഒരു കച്ചവടകേന്ദ്രമായിരിക്കുന്ന ആലപ്പുഴ ഇപ്പോൾ വളരെ വൃത്തിഹീനമായി തീർന്നിരിക്കുന്നു. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ രാജ്യത്തിനു്, ആലപ്പുഴ പട്ടണം എത്രമാത്രം പ്രാധാന്യമർഹിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സ്ഥലമാണെന്നു പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കും ഗവണ്മെന്റിനും നല്ലപോലെ അറിയാവുന്ന ഒരു കാര്യമാണു. ഗവണ്മെന്റു റവന്യൂവിൽ ഒരു നല്ല ശതമാനം ആലപ്പുഴ പട്ടണത്തിൽനിന്നുമാണു ലഭിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇത്രയൊക്കെയായിട്ടും അവിടെ കച്ചവടത്തിനായും മററും വരുന്ന ജനങ്ങൾക്കു മനുഷ്യരെപ്പോലെ സഞ്ചരിക്കാനോ താമസിക്കാനോ ഉള്ള യാതൊരു സൗകര്യവും ഇല്ല. ഗവണ്മെന്റു കുറെക്കൂടി സഹതാപത്തോടുകൂടി ആലപ്പുഴയെപ്പററി വിചാരിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ഞങ്ങൾക്കു വെള്ളം കിട്ടുന്നില്ലാ എന്നു വളരെ കാലമായി ഞങ്ങൾ മുറവിളി കൂട്ടിയതിന്റെ ഫലമായി ഗവണ്മെന്റു ഞങ്ങൾക്കു വെള്ളം തന്നു. പക്ഷേ ആ വെള്ളം റോഡിൽ നിൽക്കുന്നതല്ലാതെ യുദ്ധം വന്നതുകൊണ്ടു ഇതുവരെ വീട്ടിലേക്കു കടന്നില്ല. അതുപോലെ ഇപ്പോൾ മുനിസിപ്പൽ അതിർത്തിയിലേക്കു ചേർക്കപ്പെട്ട മററു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലുള്ളവർക്കും വെള്ളം കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. എവിടെ നിന്നാണോ ആലപ്പുഴ ടൗണിലേക്കു വെള്ളം വരുന്നതു ആ സ്ഥലത്തുള്ളവർക്കുപോലും വെള്ളം ലഭിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ അതു ഒരു പരമാർത്ഥമാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ ഏററവും മലിനമായ വെള്ളമാണു് അവർ ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നതു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ കാര്യവും ഗവണ്മെന്റു വേണ്ടപോലെ ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചു് പി. ഡബ്ലിയു. ഡി.-ൽ തന്നെ അവിടെ ജലവിതരണം ചെയ്യുന്നതിനുള്ള സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കിത്തരണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

അടുത്തതായി പി. ഡബ്ല്യു. ഡി. വകുപ്പിനെപ്പററിയാണു എനിക്കു പറയാനുള്ളതു്. സർ, ഓരോ ആണ്ടിലും അസംബ്ലിയിലും കൗൺസിലിലും വരുന്ന മെംബറന്മാർ അവരവരുടെ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലങ്ങളിൽ, കന്യാകുമാരി മുതൽ വടക്കൻ പറവൂർവരെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ, പാലം വേണം, റോഡുവേണം എന്നെല്ലാം മുറവിളി കൂട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഈ മുറവിളികൾക്കു ഇന്നും ഒരു കുറവുവന്നിട്ടില്ല. ഇതിനു പരിഹാരമായി

[Mr. S. Veeriah Reddiar]

എനിക്കു നിർദ്ദേശിക്കുവാൻ തോന്നുന്നതു ഈ രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ നോക്കി അത്യാവശ്യമെന്നു തോന്നുന്ന റോഡുകളും പാലങ്ങളും മററും ഉടനടി പണിയിക്കുന്നതിനു ആവശ്യമായ നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിലേക്കു ജനപ്രതിനിധികളും ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരും അടങ്ങിയ ഒരു കമ്മിററിയെ നിയമിക്കുകയും അവർ ഒരു ദശവത്സരപദ്ധതിയോ അഞ്ചുകൊല്ലുള്ള മററേതെങ്കിലും പദ്ധതികളോ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തി ഈ കാര്യങ്ങൾ നിർവഹിക്കുകയും വേണമെന്നാണ്.

ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ ആലപ്പുഴ കച്ചവടക്കാർക്കു ഇന്നു നേരിട്ടുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന അസൗകര്യങ്ങളെപ്പററി ഒരു വാക്ക് പറയാതിരിക്കുവാൻ തരമില്ല. അവിടെ ജൂടാമുടിത്തോട്ട് എന്നൊരു ചെറിയ തോടുണ്ട്. ആ തോട്ടിൽ നിന്നും വരുന്ന ജലം ടൗണിൽനിന്നും ൩ മൈൽ അകലെനിന്നും വന്നു കൊട്ടാരം തോട്ടിൽ വീഴുന്നു. ഈ തോടിൻെറ ഇരുവശത്തും കച്ചവടക്കാരും മററുള്ള ആളുകളും ധാരാളമായി താമസിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു. ഈ തോടിനെ നന്നാക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ ൫ കൊല്ലമായി മുനിസിപ്പാലിററിക്കാരും പി. ഡബ്ളിയു. ഡി. ക്കാരും തമ്മിൽ മത്സരമാണ്. അവർ തമ്മിലുള്ള വഴക്കുകൊണ്ട് ഈ തോട് നന്നാക്കുവാനോ അവിടെ താമസിക്കുന്നവരുടെ സൗകര്യത്തിനു ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുത്തുവാനോ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതെ വന്നിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇതിനുവേണ്ടി പല തവണ ഇവിടെ നിവേദനം ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. മഴക്കാലത്തു പാവപ്പെട്ടവർക്കു അവിടെ താമസിക്കുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. അപ്പോൾ അവിടെയുള്ള വെള്ളം കെട്ടിനിൽക്കുന്നു. വെയിൽ വരുന്ന സമയം ആ വെള്ളം വററിപ്പോകുമെങ്കിലും തന്നിമിത്തം അവിടെ കൊതുകുകളുടെ ശല്യം ക്രമാതീതമായി വർദ്ധിച്ചുവരുന്നു. ഈ കൊതുകുകളെ നശിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ ഹെൽത്തു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും ധാരാളം പണം ചെലവാക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു സമ്മതിക്കാം. എങ്കിലും ആ കൊതുകുകൾ ഞങ്ങളെ പെടുത്തുന്നപാടു ഇവിടെ വർണ്ണിക്കുവാൻ സാദ്ധ്യമല്ല. അവനിമിത്തം ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന സുഖക്കേടുകൾ അനവധിയാണ്. ഈ തോടു നന്നാക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവൺമെൻറു വേണ്ട നടപടികൾ ഉടനേ നടത്തേണ്ടതാണ്.

ഇതുപോലെ ഇരുമ്പുപാലത്തിനു പടിഞ്ഞാറുവശത്തുകൂടി വടക്കോട്ടു ഒരു ചെറിയ തോടു പോകുന്നുണ്ടു. ആ തോടും പുത്തനങ്ങാടിത്തോടും വാടത്തോടുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ടു കിടക്കുകയാണ്. എന്നാൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ തോടു ശരിപ്പെടാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ പറഞ്ഞ എല്ലാ തോടുകളും

ചെറു വള്ളത്തിൽകൂടി ഗതാഗതം ചെയ്യുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇതൊന്നു നന്നാക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ഇവയിൽകൂടി വള്ളത്തിനു നിർബാധം പോകാം. ഇപ്പോൾ കടപ്പുറത്തുനിന്നോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ചുങ്കത്തുനിന്നോ ആണ് വാടത്തോടിൽനിന്നും ഈ തോട്ടിലേക്ക് വള്ളം വരുന്നതു്. ഇതു് വളരെ ദൂരം സഞ്ചരിക്കേണ്ടതുകൊണ്ടു് ഗവർമ്മെൻറു ഈ തോടും ഉടനേ നന്നാക്കിത്തരേണ്ടതാണ്. ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു് ഞാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞ കൊല്ലം ഒരുടിയന്തിരപ്രമേയം ഇവിടെ കൊണ്ടുവരുകയും അപ്പോഴത്തെ പ്രസിഡൻറു അവർകൾ വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യുന്നതാണെന്നു വാഗ്ദാനം ചെയ്യുകയും ഉണ്ടായി എങ്കിലും അതു ഇതുവരെ പൂർണ്ണമായി നിറവേററിയിട്ടില്ലെന്നുകൂടി ഞാൻ ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ പറഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളട്ടെ.

കൊത്തുവാൽച്ചാവടിക്കു പടിഞ്ഞാറുവശം മണ്ണുവന്നു നിറഞ്ഞു ഗതാഗതത്തിനു വളരെ അസൗകര്യം വരുത്തുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു കച്ചവടത്തിനു വളരെ പ്രതിബന്ധം നേരിടുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇപ്പോൾ മഴപെയ്തു വെള്ളം ഉണ്ടായതുകൊണ്ടു വലിയ അസൗകര്യം ഇല്ല. എന്നാൽ വേനൽക്കാലം ആകുമ്പോൾ വെള്ളം വററിപ്പോകുകയും തന്നിമിത്തം ഗതാഗതത്തിനു ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുണ്ടാകുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. ഇതും ഉടനേ പരിഹരിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

സർ, ചേർത്തലയ്ക്കു ഒരു തോടുവെട്ടി. ചേർത്തലനിന്നും തെക്കോട്ടേക്കും കുറേദൂരം തോടു വെട്ടിയിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഈ തോടുകൾ രണ്ടും തമ്മിൽ ഇതുവരെ ഘടിപ്പിക്കുകയോ ഗതാഗതയോഗ്യമാക്കിത്തീർക്കുകയോ ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല. ഇതിലേക്കു ധാരാളം പണം ചെലവായി എങ്കിലും അതുകൊണ്ടു യാതൊരു പ്രയോജനവും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല. ഈ തോടുകൾ ഇപ്രകാരം അവിടെ ഇട്ടേക്കാതെ ആലപ്പുഴ മുതൽ ചേർത്തലവരെ ഒരു നല്ല തോടാക്കിത്തീർക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ഇപ്പോൾ ചെലവാക്കിയിരിക്കുന്ന പണത്തിനും പ്രയോജനമുണ്ടാകുന്നതാണ്. തോടിന്റെ ഇരുകരകളിലും ഉള്ള മണ്ണു മാററി ശരിയാക്കുന്നപക്ഷം കയർ ഫാക്ടറികളോ അതുപോലുള്ള മററു സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളോ അവിടെ ഉണ്ടാകും; മാത്രമല്ല വള്ളത്തിൽവരുന്ന സാമാനങ്ങൾ കയററുന്നതിനും ഇറക്കുന്നതിനും ഉള്ള സൗകര്യം ധാരാളമായി ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതാണ്. അതിനെപ്പററിയും ഗവർമ്മെൻറു ഉടനേ ഗൗനിക്കുമെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

ഈ ഘട്ടത്തിൽ ഇവിടത്തെ കാളേജുവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെപ്പററി ഒരു വാക്കു പറയണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ കാളേജിൽ പ്രവേശനം കിട്ടാതെ വളരെ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾ വിഷമിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇവിടെ താമസിക്കുന്നവർക്കും മററു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ പോകാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതെ

[Mr. S. Veeriah Reddiar]

വരുന്നവൎക്കും ഇവിടത്തെ കാളേജിൽ പ്രവേശനം കിട്ടുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ പിന്നീടു അവർ എന്താണു് ചെയ്യുക. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ളവർ ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് ഇൻഡ്യയിലോ മറേറാ പോയി പണവും ചെലവാക്കി കാളേജ് അഭ്യസനം നടത്തിക്കൊള്ളണമെന്നു പറയുന്നതു അവൎക്കു എത്രമാത്രം വിഷമമുണ്ടാക്കുന്ന ഒരു സംഗതിയാണെന്നുകൂടി ഗവൺമെൻറു ആലോചിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് സ്ഥലത്തു താമസിക്കുന്നവൎക്കു കാളേജിൽ പ്രവേശനം കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്. അതുപോലെ കാളേജ് ഹോസ്റ്റലിലും കൂടുതൽ വിദ്യാൎത്ഥികളെ പ്രവേശിപ്പിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം വേണ്ട സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യണം.

സർ, ടെക്സ്റ്റയിൽ വിതരണകാൎയ്യത്തിൽ ഇവിടെ വലിയ തകരാറുകൾ ഉണ്ടെന്നു പല മെമ്പറന്മാരും പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. ഇവിടെ ധാരാളം ചരക്കുകൾ വരുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇനി വന്നുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും. എന്നാൽ ചരക്കുകൾ വരുന്ന അവസരത്തിൽ ജനങ്ങൾ തള്ളിക്കയറാതെയും വന്ന സാധനങ്ങൾ ആവശ്യത്തിൽ കൂടുതൽ വാങ്ങിക്കണമെന്നു ആഗ്രഹിക്കാതെ ഇരുന്നാലും മാത്രം മതിയായിരുന്നു. ഓരോരുത്തരായി സാവധാനത്തിൽ കടയിൽവന്നു അവിടെ ഇരിക്കുന്ന സാമാനങ്ങൾ ആവശ്യത്തിനുമാത്രം വാങ്ങിക്കുവാനുള്ള ക്ഷമ ജനങ്ങൾക്കുണ്ടായിരുന്നാൽ ഈ തകരാറുകളൊന്നും ഉണ്ടാകുകയില്ലായിരുന്നു. ഒരു കടയിൽ ൫൦൦൦ രൂപയുടെ ചരക്കു വന്നു എന്നിരിക്കട്ടെ. ൫൬൦൦ പേർ ആ ചരക്കുകൾ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടുവന്നാൽ എന്തുചെയ്യും. ഈ ൫൬൦൦ പേൎക്കും ഒരേ സമയം ചരക്കുകൾ കൊടുക്കുക എന്നതുതന്നെ വളരെ പ്രയാസം. പോലീസുകാരുടെയും മററും സഹായത്തോടുകൂടി ചരക്കുകൾ കൊടുക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങിയാൽതന്നെയും ഒന്നോ രണ്ടോ ദിവസംകൊണ്ടു അവ തീൎന്നുപോകും. അടുത്ത ദിവസം വരുന്നവരോടു ചരക്കുകൾ തീൎന്നുപോയി എന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ അവർ വിശ്വസിക്കുകയില്ല. ചരക്കുകൾ ഒളിച്ചുവച്ചിരിക്കുകയാണെന്നു അവർ വിചാരിക്കും. ഇതിനു കുറച്ചു വടക്കാരൻ എന്തുചെയ്യാനാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ താലൂക്കു ബോൎഡുകൾ ഏൎപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ബോൎഡുകൾ വഴിയാണു ഇപ്പോൾ തുണി വിതരണം നടത്തുന്നതു്. പല ഇടത്തും പല രീതിയിലാണു തുണി വിതരണം നടത്തുന്നതെന്നു ഞാൻ അറിയുന്നു. ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ തഹശീൽദാരുടെ ചിററിൻപ്രകാരം നാ ഗജം തുണി കൊടുക്കാമെന്നു വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു. മററു ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ റേഷൻ കാൎഡനുസരിച്ചുന്നു

വാര തുണി കൊടുക്കണമെന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥയാണ് ഉള്ളതു. വേറെ ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഒരു കാർഡിനു ൨ വാര എന്ന കണക്കാണോ അതല്ല ആളൊന്നുക്കു ൨ വാര എന്ന കണക്കാണോ എന്നു നിശ്ചയമില്ലാതെ വിഷമിക്കുന്നു. ഗവമ്മെൻറു ഇതിനും ഒരു തീരുമാനം ഉണ്ടാക്കി കച്ചവടക്കാരെ രക്ഷിക്കണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : അരി, പഞ്ചസാര, മണ്ണെണ്ണ മുതലായവയ്ക്കു ഇപ്പോൾ കൊടുത്തുവരുന്ന രീതിയിൽ തുണി വിതരണത്തിനും പ്രത്യേകം കാർഡു കൊടുക്കുന്നതു നന്നായിരിക്കുമെന്നു മെമ്പർക്കു തോന്നുന്നുണ്ടോ?

Mr. S. Veeriah Reddiar : കാർഡു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ആവശ്യമുള്ള സെൻസസ് എടുക്കുകയും മററു ക്ലേശങ്ങൾ എല്ലാം സഹിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യേണ്ടിവരുമല്ലോ. അതിനു കാലതാമസം വരും.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : ഇപ്പോൾ നൽകിയിട്ടുള്ള അരിയുടെ കാർഡനുസരിച്ച് തുണി വിതരണം ചെയ്യുന്നതായാൽ കാലതാമസം വരുത്താതെ കഴിക്കാമല്ലോ.

Mr. S. Veeriah Reddiar : അങ്ങിനെ സാധിക്കുമായിരിക്കാം പക്ഷെ അതിലേക്കുള്ള ഏർപ്പാടുകൾ ചെയ്തു കഴിയുമ്പോഴേക്കും യുദ്ധം തീർന്നുപോകും.

സർ, ഏററവും സമർത്ഥനും ശക്തിമാനുമായ ഒരു മഹാനെ നമ്മുടെ ദിവാൻജിയായി ഇന്നു നമുക്കു കിട്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു യുദ്ധത്തിൻെറ വിഷമങ്ങളൊന്നുംതന്നെ നാം അറിഞ്ഞില്ല. ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് ഇൻഡ്യയിലും അതുപോലുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലുമുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾ യുദ്ധം സംബന്ധിച്ച് ആഹാരാദികാര്യങ്ങളിൽ എത്രമാത്രം ക്ലേശങ്ങൾ സഹിക്കേണ്ടിവന്നു എന്നുള്ളതു നാം പത്രങ്ങൾ വഴിയായും മററും ദിവസവും അറിഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടല്ലോ. എന്നാൽ ആ നിലയിലുള്ള ക്ലേശാനുഭവങ്ങളൊന്നും സർ, അങ്ങയുടെ കാരുണ്യംകൊണ്ടു ഇവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങളോടുള്ള സ്നേഹാതിരേകംകൊണ്ട്, അങ്ങയുടെ സാമർത്ഥ്യവും സ്വാധീനശക്തിയും കൊണ്ടു ഞങ്ങൾക്കു അനുഭവിക്കേണ്ടതായി വന്നില്ല. തുണിക്കും ജനങ്ങൾ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടേണ്ടി വരുകയില്ല. ഇവിടെയുള്ളവർക്കു മിതമായ ആവശ്യത്തിനു മതിയാംവണ്ണമുള്ള ചരക്കു ഇപ്പോഴും ഇവിടെ വരുന്നുണ്ട്. അങ്ങയുടെ നിർദ്ദേശാനുസരണം ഞങ്ങളെപ്പോലുള്ള മൊത്തക്കച്ചവടക്കാരെ പ്രേരിപ്പിച്ച് യുദ്ധാരംഭത്തിനു അടുത്ത കാലത്തുതന്നെ ധാരാളം ചരക്കുകൾ ഇവിടെ ശേഖരിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. അങ്ങയുടെ പ്രേരണ നിമിത്തം ഞങ്ങൾ

[Mr. S Veeriah Reddiar]

അനവധി രൂപാ കടം വാങ്ങിച്ചു ചരക്കുകൾ ഇവിടെ ശേഖരിക്കുകയും തന്നിമിത്തം വളരെ തുക നഷ്ടപ്പെടുകയും ചെയ്തു. സർ, ആ കഥ ഒന്നും ഇവിടെയിരിക്കുന്ന മെമ്പറന്മാർ അധികംപേരും അറിഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല. ഇവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങൾ വിവേകമുള്ളവരും പഠിപ്പുള്ളവരും ആണല്ലോ. തുണി വാങ്ങിച്ചു ശേഖരിക്കുവാൻ അവർ ആഗ്രഹിക്കാതിരുന്നാൽ മാത്രം മതി, തുണി കിട്ടാനുള്ള വിഷമം നമുക്ക് അന്നുമുതൽ ഇല്ലാതായിത്തുടങ്ങും.

President: I think it must be said in justice to the Textile business against whom hard criticisms are made that it was at my personal request that the leading Textile merchants in Travancore, very early after the commencement of the war and in the realisation that in all probability the situation would be more difficult, purchased goods. I know that, having borrowed money for the purchase of goods, they did suffer losses. In the case of yarn, Government took the responsibility. The Government was keen in preventing any mischief and so Government bought at a very high rate and had the greatest possible difficulty in disposing, because the Government of India had suddenly lowered the rate. I do not think that the Government are unalive to the services done by the Textile Business at a very critical period of the cloth position in the country's history.

Mr. S. Veeriah Reddiar: ഇൻകംടാക്സിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചും കച്ചവടക്കാർക്കു പലതരത്തിലുള്ള വിഷമങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇപ്പോൾ അമിതാദായനികുതി എന്നൊരു നികുതികൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അതിനു റിട്രാസ്പെക്ടീവ് എഫക്റ്റ് കൊടുക്കുന്നതിലും തൽസംബന്ധമായ കണക്കുകൾ പരിശോധിക്കുന്നതിലും മററും പല തരത്തിലുള്ള പരാതികൾ ഉണ്ടാകാറുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ യുദ്ധം കഴിയുമ്പോൾ ഇതു സംബന്ധിച്ച ആശ്വാസം കിട്ടുമല്ലോ എന്നു കരുതി ഇപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ അതിനെപ്പററി ഒന്നുംതന്നെ പറയണമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല. എന്നാൽ മുനിസിപ്പാലിററിയിൽനിന്നും തൊഴിൽക്കരം പിരിക്കുന്ന ഏർപ്പാടിൽ വലിയ അഴിമതികൾ കാണിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അവർ അടുത്ത കൊല്ലത്തേയ്ക്കു ഏതെങ്കിലും തൊഴിലിൽ നിന്നു ഇത്രയും തുക ആദായം കിട്ടും എന്നു ഒരു കണക്കു വച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഇപ്പോൾ തൊഴിൽക്കരം പിരിക്കുന്നത്. ചില മുനിസിപ്പാലിററിയിൽ കച്ചവടക്കാർതന്നെ മെമ്പറന്മാരായിരിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ആ കച്ചവടക്കാർതന്നെയാണ് മററു കച്ചവടക്കാരിൽനിന്നു ഈ തൊഴിൽക്കരം പിരിച്ചെടുക്കുന്നത്.

ഇവർ ആദായം കണക്കാക്കുന്നതു ന്യായമായ ഒരു തോതും വച്ചുകൊണ്ടല്ല. കച്ചവടക്കാരെ സംബന്ധിച്ചോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ അവർ പറയുന്നതോ ആയ കണക്കുകൾ ഇവർ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നില്ല. കണ്ടമാനം ഒരാദായം കണക്കാക്കി തോന്നിയ്ക്കുക കച്ചവടക്കാരെയും അതുപോലുള്ള മററു തൊഴിൽക്കാരുടെയും പേരിൽ നിന്നു മുനിസിപ്പാലിററിക്കാർ തൊഴിൽക്കരമായി ഈടാക്കിവരുന്നു. ഇതിനെപ്പററി ആരെങ്കിലും മുനിസിപ്പൽ പ്രസിഡൻറിൻെറ അടുക്കൽ സങ്കടം പറഞ്ഞാൽ അദ്ദേഹം തിരിഞ്ഞു നോക്കുകപോലുമില്ല. ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവമ്മെൻറു ഉടനടി ഇടപെടുകയും ന്യായമായ ആദായം കിട്ടുന്നവരിൽനിന്നുമാത്രം തൊഴിൽക്കരം ഈടാക്കുവാൻ വേണ്ട വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ചെയ്യണമെന്നപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. G. Ravi Varma (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad* cum *Chirayinkil*): Sir, this morning when I came here I wished to depart from the usual custom of congratulating the Financial Secretary or the Government or the Head of the Administration. But, instead, I wished to congratulate the whole people of Travancore for having before us a prosperous budget for the next year. But I go back and say that I congratulate again the Financial Secretary and the Government for the systems of taxation and administration for these two years, because, this morning, as a result of those things my honourable friend Mr. Mackar Pillai happened to turn a socialist in his speech. Sir, I welcome such people becoming socialists. That is good for the country. It is gratifying to note that our financial position is very prosperous and sound. Our revenues next year have reached such a high figure of 623 lakhs and it is also a good feature indeed that there is no new taxation for the next year. I appreciate the Financial Secretary's caution towards the end of the first paragraph saying that we will have a rainy day after the war and that our revenues will become smaller in figure. From his speech itself he has asked us to view the budget from two angles; firstly as a budget to keep with the rainy day that is to come and secondly as a budget for the future generation. Sir, before passing on to offer any remarks about these two things I wish to say that there is a certain drawback in the estimation of our revenues for the last two years *i. e.*, 1119 and 1120. I will state the figures. The Financial Secretary in paragraph 7 of his speech says that he has been very conservative in estimating the revenues of the next year. Undoubtedly he is right, and rightly we may accuse him for being very conservative for the years 1119 and 1120. For example on

[Mr. G Ravi Varma]

looking at the figures for 1119 the original estimate was Rs.385·54. lakhs and the revised estimates Rs. 489·41 lakhs. But the actual collections came to nearly 506 lakhs. There is a difference of 120·46 lakhs. For the year 1120 the corresponding figures are 532·19 and 607·12 and I am sure and certain that the actuals will come to more than Rs.620 lakhs. Judging from the previous figures, I think, our revenues for the next year will reach the seven crore standard. This kind of pervading conservatism has certain merits on the one side and certain defects on the other. For example, if we had known last year and this year, previously, that our revenues would have soared so high, we would have spent more money on the pay of the lower strata of Government servants and also more money on productive schemes as well as post-war reconstruction works.

President: What I expect—I do not want to dogmatise—is that next year probably the honourable member's prognastications may be justified and the revenue may go up to the seven crore figure. But what I expect is, if the world conference will not take very strict measures to prevent deflation, very probably our figures in the year 1122 and 1123 will be between 5 and 6 crores. I am anticipating a down grading to the extent of about 2 crores in normal revenues and an increase of one crore from the various industrial incomes and profits especially when some of the major industries come to fruition. Therefore, all this estimate of the 5 crore limit and the seven or eight crore limit is a matter of speculation, the results of which will be conditioned upon the world policy evolved by the great powers. This policy will very much depend upon the value of the rupee in relation to sterling; we have to purchase in sterling money all the products which we have to utilise for our industrial development either in dollars or in sterling. In the pegging of the Rupee to Sterling, any change either on account of the act of the Government of India or on account of the act of the Government of England, might cause very great differences in the rates on which we are now estimating those goods.

Mr. G. Ravi Varma: But on second thoughts, Sir, I do not find fault with the Financial Secretary's conservatism, because as a matter of fact we have been able to hoard and save money for our post-war reconstruction as a result of this conservatism, and I think that we can spend for all these schemes most profitably and economically after the war for a few years to come. But I must warn him that such conservatism will not justify itself in future when the sky is clear from war clouds and the normal state of affairs prevails.

Sir, coming to the quality of the Budget that it claims to be a budget for the future generation, it has to be viewed from two angles, that is from the revenue side and the expenditure side. On the expenditure side, I have no hesitation to say that it is a peoples' budget. We have got various productive schemes, industrial and agricultural and our post-war reconstruction scheme is going to benefit the people of the country on a large scale. Looking at the industries envisaged in the Budget and to be started next year, I was all along wondering, Sir, how you forgot either to start or allow the people to a cotton spinning and weaving mill in Travancore, just like the Madura Mills or the Papanasam Mills.

President: I may say that this Government were definitely approached by some of the foremost Textile experts and merchants in India in order to start a weaving mill in Travancore. Government have discouraged them so far because of the large number of handloom weavers who would be put out of work if a mill was established. But I am glad to tell the honourable member that after a certain amount of negotiation with a very big spinning mill, one of the largest in India, a weaving mill will very soon come into existence.

Mr. G. Ravi Varma: But whether we will be able to get the necessary cotton for that purpose is a problem. On investigation it could be seen that we have enough of lands for cotton cultivation in the country itself. Sir, you have promised to bring into existence a silk factory. Though it is a welcome thing, the ordinary man in the street the ordinary labourer, wants only cotton cloth. I think, it is high time for the Government to encourage that industry here.

Sir, there are other schemes such as the compulsory Primary Education and the development of medical institutions in the State which are going to benefit people in large scale. On the whole, Sir, I have no hesitation to say that the next years's Budget is a Budget for the future generation. Looking at the Budget from the revenue side, I am constrained to think and pause, and ask whether it is a Budget for the future generation or not. The first thing that stares me in the face on the revenue column is the size of our abkari revenue. Sir, does it denote our material or moral progress or the progress of the State? To have such a high figure in the revenues and analysing the facts and figures that led to that...

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan: May I ask the honourable member whether our revenues show a unique increase?

Mr. G. Ravi Varma: Sir, I wish to say generally that it is not good to have such a high figure on abkari in any budget of any country. That does not speak well of the country. From the Administration Report I have collected certain facts and figures and I find that the amount spent by the population of the State for liquor comes to 10 crores of rupees.

[Mr. G. Ravi Varma].

If we take into consideration the wet population of the State a man who drinks spends about Rs. 50 yearly which comes to half the figure of the *percapita* income of an ordinary person in India. Is it right to encourage such drinking habit among the people ?

Mr. K. G. Kunjukrishna Pillai : Does the honourable member suggest free drinking in the State ?

Mr. G. Ravi Varma : Sir, whatever might be said by the Treasury benches we on this side of the House look at the question with great alarm.

President : Quite justifiable. The honourable member will proceed.

Mr. G. Ravi Varma : I may go further and say that it has become the common feature of the day that the only non-rationed article in the State is liquor.

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : I may inform the honourable member that I have rationed arrack also.

Mr. G. Ravi Varma : I am aware that in the Administration Report of the Excise department it is said that if the people are going to continue to consume such a large quantity of arrack it is proposed to introduce rationing with regard to that. It is a common feature nowadays that the pilgrims to this altar come from the younger generation. I was enquiring about a contractor in my place who bid a liquor shop for the huge figure of Rs. 21,500. In 1119 it was Rs. 950, in 1120 Rs. 11,500 and for 1121 it is Rs. 21,500.

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : That amount has been paid also.

Mr. G. Ravi Varma : I asked him very seriously whether he was mad at the time of bidding the auction. He told me that he was perfectly sane, and was not at all influenced by drink. He also told me that he expected to get a like amount as profit for the next year. So such a huge amount is being spent by the people of Travancore for liquor. That will tell upon the moral and material condition of the labouring section of the people. In this connection I wish to say that I happened to see the picture of a very famous statue in Paris. I think it was the statue by Sculptor Jeacopin of international fame. The statue was named "Soir de paye," "The evening of pay day." It is a picture which suggests itself of the condition of a poor labourer who is addicted to the habit of drink. The mother with 2 or 3 children were crying when they saw the man lying in the gutter with a broken bottle near him, on the evening of a day. I think that will be the condition of the poor families if these conditions of affairs are allowed to continue.

President : The honourable member will finish soon.

Mr. G. Ravi Varma : I will finish this subject with a certain sentence, uttered by the celebrated English Statesman Mr. Gladston in Parliament when dealing with the question of liquor. "Gentlemen, you need not worry about revenue—The question of revenue should never stand in the way of needed reforms. Gentlemen, give me a sober population not wasting their earnings in liquor. I know how to obtain revenue."

And I am sure that you, Sir, will find a solution and obtain revenue in some other way.

President : The honourable member will finish his speech soon. He has already exceeded his time.

Mr. G. Ravi Varma : A word with regard to the increase of the population in the country. Does this budget give us any programme to house the future generation of the country? During the last Census the population was about 61 lakhs and on a modest calculation in the next Census it would come to 75 lakhs. Calculated on the arable land basis, there are 1500 people per square mile. Coastal pakuthies, for example the pakuthies in the Chirayinkil taluk of my constituency, are overcrowded It has come to such an unhealthy condition. I do not know whether you are aware that the coastal pakuthy of Kadakavoor is the most thickly populated area in the whole of India, or in the whole of the world, apart from the urban population.

President : Mattanchery is the most thickly populated.

Mr. G. Ravi Varma : Mattanchery is an urban area. On a rough calculation it comes to 7500 people per square mile. The problem is how to house these people on a healthy basis. I think some sort of future programme should be devised to house these people.

President : The honourable member will resume his seat.

Mr. D. Krishnan Potti (*Kottarakara and Pathanapuram cum Shencottah*) : Sir, this is our sixth war-time budget and as is common in all other countries at this period the picture is one of increasing revenue and increasing expenditure. We are passing through a transitional period in our history, in the financial and other aspects of our national life. Everybody seems to be agreed that only a nation-wide planning affecting every department of our life will be able to make us succeed in future. Our ideas in regard to the functions of State, the duties that it has to shoulder, has greatly altered. To assure to every citizen the wherewithal for a

[Mr. D. Krishnan Potti.]

decent living, to keep up that standard of social equilibrium wherein the individual is freed from the cares of hunger and poverty can develop the best in him for social good. These are responsibilities that the modern state has to shoulder and work out. Food, education, employment, old-age pension and many other innumerable matters are brought within the function of State. Hence we are being confronted with these new problems that demand new methods of solution and my apprehension is whether the existing system of State organisations can successfully handle this work. It was never trained nor was it intended for this new and novel duties. My submission is that any plan for the future must be accompanied by suitable administrative machinery to work out these problems. In matters relating to the intimate life of the community we have experienced that the present system of centralised administration has been totally inefficient. The very nature of such functions demands some sort of local administrative body more intimate relationship with the life of the community.

The history of local self Government in Travancore has not been a happy one and I am sorry that in this respect we stand far behind even British India and Cochin. Sir, I am greatly heartened by the announcement you made the other day. You have stated that while it is the policy of Government to encourage more Village Unions being established in more centres of the State, the Government find it difficult to introduce that co-operative spirit which is so essential for the successful working of these local bodies. Sir, I admit this. But I think it is more largely due to the present constitution of these local organisations with little responsibility and even their representative character is doubtful.

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker: Is the honourable member aware that rules have been so framed that the Chairman may be elected by the people?

Mr. D. Krishnan Potti: I am perfectly aware of it. What I want to stress is that people must be taken more into the administration of these organisations. I hope Government will realise the great importance of these local bodies developing as pivotal centres for the future of the State. The tremendous progress made by Soviet Russia in recent years in cultural and economic aspect has been to a great extent due to the strength and vitality of the Soviet system of local administration. I feel that every Revenue pakuthy in the State must have its local administrative body capable of looking after its welfare and managing the administration of such matters as public health, sanitation, education,

maintenance of communication and even maintenance of peace and order. The work of the Central Government in regard to these matters must be largely by way of co-ordination, direction and control alone. If we had more local administrative bodies how much more efficiently we might have been able to face the problems of rice distribution, yarn and cloth distribution etc. Compulsory education and many other plans envisaged in the post-war reconstruction scheme can be a success only if there are strong local administrative bodies. I believe Government will rise up to the occasion and give the country proper guidance in the matter.

Sir, there is one more matter which I wish briefly to refer. There is much talk of agricultural improvements. But unfortunately one important aspect of it has been sadly forgotten. A large majority of the cultivators of this country are those who do not possess lands. They cultivate lands belonging to the jenmies under some customary sort of lease or pattom. They have no permanent interest or stake in the land. Absolute landlordism is a great hindrance to the development of agriculture and any attempt at bettering the condition of life of the agriculturist or improving methods of cultivation must be prefaced by giving the actual cultivator security in regard to his holding. A feeling of security will be a great incentive to work among the actual tillers of the soil who form the backbone of our country. Sir, it is my conviction that no good can be done towards the improvement of agriculture without solving these fundamental problems of land tenure and land holdings. Both in Malabar and Cochin Governments have taken up the initiative in bringing forward legislation along these lines. I may refer, Sir, to the Malabar Tenancy Act, the Cochin Tenancy Act, The Cochin Venpattom Bill and many other enactments in recent years. These are only half measures and do not give complete satisfaction. But meanwhile, placed as we are today, I think these measures can afford some relief. I hope Government will consider this matter seriously and undertake proper legislation before long.

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar (*Kalkulam and Vilavancode cum Neyyattinkara*): Sir, I congratulate the Financial Secretary for having presented a surplus budget. In this connection, I bring to the notice of the honourable members the difficulties that are being caused to the Sidha Vaidyans of South Travancore in getting their names registered as practising physicians. Sir, the part played by the physicians in South Travancore who are natives of the place, is immensely great. There has been very little support from the Government by way of medical aid in South Travancore. All the

[Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar.]

encouragement are given to allopathic doctors and all supports are made in the North and Central Travancore. The Medical Practitioners' Act puts a restraint on the native Sidha Vaidyans practising in this part of the State. It was required on the 22nd of Chingom 1120, that they should submit their applications for registration within seven days. Probably, even notices would not have reached the attention of the physicians within a period of seven days.

President: I think there was some extension of time given.

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker: Was not the Act published in the Gazette?

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar: Yes, Sir, some notices were published in the gazette. There was only seven days' time given to register their applications. They were asked to produce certificates from the local Tahsildars or Medical officers. There was hardly any time for these people to get the certificates and register their applications in time. Within seven days, intervened the Onam holidays and the closure of the offices. The extension of at least a month was prayed for and that too was denied. Thus, the actual applicants were prevented from getting the certificates and registering their applications.

Mr. K. G. Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir, that statement is not correct. Definitely, the time was extended.

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar: No, the time was not extended. More than thousand phisicians who have been practising this system hereditarily, were applying for the registration and all those applications now stand unaccepted.

Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker: That is not a fact, Sir. The applications have not been rejected. The Government have not collected all facts on the point and the applications have not been decided one way or the other.

President: Order, order. Is there any ban imposed upon their hareditary practice now? Supposing the *Sidha Vaidyans* have not all got registered; are they not allowed to practice in the interim period and are they not getting the benefit of their previous practice?

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar: If there was a legislation on this point, there need not have been this fear.

Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai (*Legal Remembrancer to Government*): Till the time of appeal is over they can practice.

President: Order, order. Yes, until the Medical Council rejects the application and they appeal. I may be corrected by those who know the facts, but so far as I remember the enactment, a certain time was allowed to those gentlemen to apply for registration. Some of them have applied for registration and none of them has been prevented from practising and will not be prevented until after the procedure in the Act is gone through, namely, of the Medical Council considering the applications and either accepting or rejecting the applications. And if they reject, an appeal is provided and it is only after it is done that they could be said to have been prevented from practising.

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar: If, as has been suggested in the Oosman Committee, Madras, an enquiry is instituted and they are satisfied of the inexpediency of granting licenses to these physicians and if the physicians are not able to satisfy that committee, they may be rejected and prohibited from practising; otherwise, they ought to be allowed to continue. By restricting their practice, we are losing a very valuable part of that science. There are very many families having traditional treatment, such as *Visha Vaidyans, Varmanies*, those who attend to fracture owing to falls, etc., and if all these physicians are restricted from practising when any accident occurs there will be no person to give immediate relief. The accidents for which these *Vaidyans* are required mostly occur when other Medical Practitioners' aid can not be available. It is in times like that the need for these physicians is felt. People who go out into the sea or who fall from the trees often require the services of such Vaidyans.

Mr. N. Narayana Kurup: Are they bound to fall?

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar: No, sometimes they may fall. They are not bound to...........

Mr. T. W. U. Park: May I know if there is anything in the Act to prevent the ordinary citizen in giving him first aid?

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar: Is it for me to answer. If there is no restriction..........

President: Order, order. I may make an elucidation on this point. So far as I recollect, there is a penalty section, section 36 in this Act which I do not think has been brought into operation just now. In other words, the Travancore Medical Practitioners' Act which was passed in 1119, says in section 36 that

> "No practitioner other than a practitioner registered under this Act shall practise or hold himself out, whether directly or by implication, as practising any system of medicine, surgery or midwifery;"

[President.]

Now, it is only if this Act comes into force that non-registered practitioners can be prosecuted and made to suffer the penalties that are prescribed. At present the Government have not brought these provisions into force, so that any person falling from the trees or suffering any other accident can undoubtedly be given help by the *Vaidyans* and nobody can prevent them. If the honourable member has any influence in his constituency, he can tell the people so.

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar: Sir, if they fall or if there is an accident after the passing of the Act.........

President: The falling from the tree just now is all right. But the later falling may be affected (*laughter*). I catch the honourable member's point.

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar: With regard to the telephone arrangements that are done in this City, I have to say a few words. There are three systems of telephone connection now in operation. They are, the Auto system, the C. B. system ond the Magneto system. The Magneto system is the oldest one that is carried on in this Town. The C. B. system is said to be the best. Anyhow the old system now prevails in the town, and as a result, there is a greater amount of work to be done by the Operator. The operator who is attending to the subscribers has been found fault with for not attending to calls in time. Subscribers have to wait for a long time to get the answers for their calls. In a single board where those plugs are arranged there are about 160 connections made, while there are only 24 plugs provided for in the Exchange. Suppose there has been a call made at the same time by fifteen persons. All the other three persons will have to wait. Now that there is a surplus Budget provision, more hands can be provided for this purpose, and the Government have actually felt the difficulty, no Board should contain more than a hundred connections. Further, there is another difficulty felt by the operators. Certain operators are worked more than ten hours a day, while others have to work only for five hours. With regard to their pay, it has been said that their pay does not exceed Rs 25 or 30; while those persons working in other offices are getting Rs. 30-45. This disparity should be rectified.

Now, coming to the Land Revenue, the old system of settlement has been now abolished and the new system of automatic settlement is introduced. A basic tax of four cash is to be levied and an agricultural income tax has also been introduced.

The difficulty arises when this is being applied to the kanapattom, Sripandaravagai and Edavagai lands. In that case, the tax goes to the Government and certain Matoms or Devaswom groups do not get the revenue. Whether this will embrace the whole assessment or not, is not clear. Whether this tax is to be levied on all kinds of lands is not also known. All the subjects are entitled to the same basic privileges. The basic tax and the agricultural income tax are to be levied on these holdings also.

Mr. K. G. Kunjukrishna Pillai: I may state for the information of the honourable member that at present the tax is going to be levied only on pandaravagai sirkar lands and not on any other tenure areas.

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar: Those are also pandarapattom lands. In the last Settlement, in our parts, *viz.*, Kalkulam and Vilavancode taluks, complete settlement was not effected. The Oodukoor system is even now prevalent in Kalkulam and Vilavancode taluks. So, by any amount of partition this system will never cease to exist, unless a civil court decree has been made in regard to that property. When this tax is levied on the individual holdings, more proverthicars may have to be engaged for settling this Oodukoor system as otherwise the system will continue to exist and cause a number of unforeseen litigations.

Mr. K. G. Kunjukrishna Pillai: The Oodukoor system is a system by which many families enjoy the property. But here the pattadar is to be taxed.

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar: Suppose I enjoy the property under the Oodukoor system and even though a part of it is apportioned and sold by metes and bounds that part will not be separated from the whole property and separately assessed. That is how it is being done. Supposing I sell 25 cents of land out of one acre the other person who buys it is entitled to 1/4 of the profit accruing from it.

President: Both of them will have to pay.

Mr. A. Gabriel Nadar: They now pay in a joint patta and not each by a separate patta. So, this matter has to be looked into. Further for effecting the pokkuvaravu, the Proverticars take evidence of pokkuvaravu and generally reject the 'A' Form of the pokkuvaravu on the ground that they have not received sufficient data for effecting the pokkuvaravu. Some times they issue notices for getting evidences in the name of a dead person in whose name the thandaper still remains. Soon after a person dies, the pokkuvaravu should be effected in the name of his successors. (President's bell.)

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : സർ, ൬൨൪ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ വരവും, ൭൦൦ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ചെലവും ഉണ്ടാവുമെന്നു ഉള്ള പ്രതീക്ഷയോടു കൂടിയുള്ള ഒരു ബഡ്ജററാണല്ലോ ൧൧൨൧-ലേക്ക് ധനകാര്യമെമ്പർ ഈ സഭയിൽ ഹാജരാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ആദ്യമായി നമുക്കു വരവിനങ്ങളെപ്പററി തന്നെ നോക്കാം. സർ, തിരുവിതാംകൂർ രാജ്യം മുതലെടുപ്പിൽ മററു നാട്ടുരാജ്യങ്ങളെ അപേക്ഷിച്ച് ഉന്നതമായ ഒരു സ്ഥാനം അർഹിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു പറയുന്നുണ്ടല്ലോ. എന്നാൽ നമ്മുടെ അയൽ രാജ്യമായ കൊച്ചിരാജ്യത്തിന് നമ്മെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ വരവുണ്ടെന്നു കാണാവുന്നതാണ്. ജനസംഖ്യയുടെയും വിസ്തീർണ്ണതയുടെയും തോതു് വെച്ചു താരതമ്യപ്പെടുത്തിയാൽ കൊച്ചിക്കു നമ്മെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ വരവു ഉണ്ടെന്നു അവിടെ ഇപ്പോൾ പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്ന ബഡ്ജററു കൊണ്ടു തെളിയുന്നു.

President : They get about three crores and we get about six and a half crores.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : We have got more acreage.

President : That means we are more lightly taxed.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : I am not speaking about the tax I am only speaking about the total income.

സർ, ഞാൻ അവിടത്തെ ആകെയുള്ള വരവിനെപ്പററിയാണു പറയുന്നതു്

ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെ കാണിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ൬ കോടിരൂപാ വരവിൽ ഒരു നല്ല ഭാഗം എക്സൈസ് ഇനത്തിൽനിന്നും ലഭിക്കുന്ന തുകയാണ്. എക്സൈസ് ഇനത്തിൽ നിന്നും ലഭിക്കുന്ന വരവിൽ ഭൂരിഭാഗവും മദ്യപാനത്തിൽനിന്നും ഉള്ള വരവാണെന്നുകൂടി ഓർമ്മിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഈ രാജ്യത്തിനുണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള അമിതമായ വരവിൽ നമുക്ക് അത്രമാത്രം അഭിമാനം കൊള്ളുവാൻ വകയുണ്ടോ എന്നു ഞാൻ സംശയിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan : മദ്യപാനത്തിൽനിന്നും ലഭിക്കുന്ന തുക കൊച്ചിയെക്കാൾ ഇവിടെ കൂടുതലാണോ, കുറവാണോ?

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : അതിൻെറ കണക്ക് ഞാൻ എടുത്തിട്ടില്ല. നമ്മുടെ മുതലെടുപ്പിൽ കുറെ കുറവു വന്നാലും തരക്കേടില്ല, മദ്യപാനത്തിൽ നിന്നുള്ള വരവ് കുറയ്ക്കണമെന്നാണ് എൻെറ അഭിപ്രായം.

ഇനി ചെലവിനങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റി നോക്കാം. ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്കും ഉപയോഗപ്രദമായ വിധത്തിൽ തയ്യാറാക്കപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു ബഡ്ജറ്റാണിതെന്ന് ഇവിടെ ചിലർ പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. സർ, ഇവിടുത്തെ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾ ആരാണ്? നാട്ടിൻപുറം ഗ്രാമങ്ങളാണ് ഈ രാജ്യത്തുള്ളത്. ഇവിടത്തെ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളും ഈ ഗ്രാമങ്ങളിൽ താമസിക്കുന്നവരാണ്. ഈ വസ്തുത മനസ്സിൽ വച്ചുകൊണ്ട് ഈ ബഡ്ജറ്റിനെ സൂക്ഷ്മമായി പരിശോധിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ഗ്രാമീണകാര്യങ്ങൾക്ക് പ്രാധാന്യം കൊടുത്തുകൊണ്ട് തയ്യാറാക്കപ്പെട്ടതോ, ഗ്രാമീണജനങ്ങളുടെ നന്മയെ ലാക്കാക്കി രൂപവൽകരിക്കപ്പെട്ടതോ ആയ ഒരു ബഡ്ജറ്റല്ല ഇത് എന്നാണ് എനിക്ക് പറയുവാനുള്ളത്. അവരുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനോ, വൈദ്യസഹായത്തിനോ, കുടിൽവ്യവസായങ്ങളുടെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കോ, അല്ലെങ്കിൽ അതുപോലെയുള്ള കാര്യങ്ങൾക്കോ മുൻകൊല്ലങ്ങളെ അപേക്ഷിച്ച് കൂടുതൽ തുകകൾ ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഗ്രാമീണജനങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റ് ഏററവും നിരാശാജനകമായ ഒരു ബഡ്ജറ്റായിരിക്കുന്നതേയുള്ളു. ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ മുതലെടുപ്പു കൂടുതൽ കാണുന്നതിൽ ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയെ അല്ല, തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ പൊതുജനങ്ങളെയാണ് അനുമോദിക്കേണ്ടതു്. കാരണം അവരുടെ സാമ്പത്തികമായ ശേഷിയും, കഴിവുമാണ് ഇവിടുത്തെ മുതലെടുപ്പിനെ ഇത്രമേൽ വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചതു്.

സർ, ഗവർമെൻറിൻറെ വ്യവസായ നയത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഒന്നു രണ്ടു കാര്യങ്ങൾ പറയുവാൻ ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. ജനങ്ങൾ ആണ്ടുതോറും ക്രമാതീതമായി വർദ്ധിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയും, തദനുസരണമായി കൃഷിസ്ഥലങ്ങൾ വർദ്ധിക്കാതിരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നതിനാൽ വ്യവസായം ഒന്നു മാത്രമാണു ജനങ്ങൾക്കുള്ള സാമ്പത്തികമാർഗ്ഗം. മുൻപൊരിക്കൽ ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡൻറ് അവർകൾ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ഒന്നുകിൽ രാജ്യത്തെ വ്യവസായീകരിക്കുക, അല്ലെങ്കിൽ മരിക്കുക. പക്ഷെ രാജ്യത്തെ വ്യവസായീകരിക്കുന്നതിൽ ഇപ്പോഴും ഗവർമെൻറ് അനുവർത്തിച്ചുവരുന്ന നയത്തോടു യോജിക്കുവാൻ എനിക്കു നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ചില വൻപിച്ച വ്യവസായങ്ങൾ ഇപ്പോഴും ഇവിടെ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്, ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുവാൻ പോകുന്നുമുണ്ട്. ഇന്നയിന്ന വ്യവസായങ്ങൾ ഈ നാട്ടിൽ നടത്തുന്നതിനുള്ള സാദ്ധ്യതകളുണ്ട്, എന്നു ഗവർമെൻറു അന്വേഷണം നടത്തി തീരുമാനിക്കുക അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള വ്യവസായങ്ങൾ ഇന്നവകകളാ

[Mr. Paul A. Thaliath.]

ണെന്നും അതുകൾ നടത്തുന്നവൎക്ക് ഇന്നയിന്ന സഹായങ്ങൾ ചെയ്തു കൊടുക്കമെന്നും പത്രങ്ങൾമുഖേനെയും മററും പരസ്യപ്പെടുത്തുകയും അതുകൾ ഏററെടുക്കുന്നതിന തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ജനങ്ങളോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെടുകയും ചെയ്യുക, എന്നിട്ടും ആളുകൾ മുന്നോട്ടു വന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ മാത്രമെ പുറത്തുനിന്നും ആളെ ക്ഷണിച്ചുവരുത്തി അവരെ ഏല്പിക്കാവൂ. എന്നാൽ ഇവിടെ ഇപ്പോൾ നടക്കുന്നതു അങ്ങനെയല്ല. ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു വ്യവസായം തുടങ്ങണമെന്നു ഗവമെന്റു തീരുമാനിച്ചാൽ ഉടനെ പുറത്തുനിന്നും ആരെയെങ്കിലും ഇവിടെ ക്ഷണിച്ചുവരുത്തി, അവരെ കൊണ്ടു ഷെയറുകളെല്ലാം എടുപ്പിച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞതിനുശേഷം മാത്രമാണ് ഇവിടെയുള്ളവര അതിനെപ്പററിയുള്ള കഥകൾതന്നെ അറിയുവാൻ തുടങ്ങുന്നത്.

President: Order, order. That is not quite accurate, because when I assumed office here in 1936, I announced in this House that we were going to start some industries. I then made an appeal that these industries might well be started by local enterprise and with local capital. Amongst the industries that I then indicated are those that have now been started, and it was because local enterprise and local initiative did not come forward and the time was pressing, that we took advantage of outside capital. I think that this matter must be made perfectly clear. Amongst the industries that were started then, was a local enterprise in sugar which, however, was a catastrophic failure, although many facilities such as jaggery and the climate and the necessary machinery existed. That was the result of local enterprise. Another local enterprise was rubber. That was a ghastly failure. Without change of machinery and without the change of personnel, other people took it up and they have turned out very profitable results. Other questions like rayon, sericulture, tobacco, and yarn production were outlined by me in 1937. Though many enterprises by way of speculative plantation investments have attracted the people, none till now has come forward with a preposition in respect of any of those industries. I think honourable members may realise this. Till now no local capitalist has yet—with one exception—come forward with any industrial proposition on the lines sketched by me in 1937. That is a matter which should be well known. There are persons who have made large amounts of money during the war. So far as Travancore is concerned, at one time it was a land of small capitalists and a land of what may be called the lower middle class. But it today contains a few fairly big industrialists.

Yet not one of them has put forward a single proposal to start any new industry although they know what new industries can be started here and are being started now.

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath: സർ, ഇനിയെങ്കിലും ഗവൺമെൻറ നടത്താൻ തീരുമാനിക്കുന്ന വ്യവസായങ്ങളെപ്പററി കൂടുതലായി പരസ്യപ്പെടുത്തിയതിനു ശേഷം ഈ നാട്ടിൽ ഏററുഎടുക്കുവാൻ ആരും ഇല്ലാതെ വന്നാൽ മാത്രമെ പുറത്തുള്ളവരെ ക്ഷണിക്കാവൂ എന്നാണ് എനിക്കു പറയുവാൻ ഉള്ളതു്.

President: Order, order. The year before last, last year and this year also, I have stated that the first work that will be started here is in regard to aluminium. So far as aluminium is concerned, the aluminium company came here because it was considered necessary to start a key industry like aluminium in Travancore. They raised capital at the instance of this Government and increased their capital by Rs. 75 lakhs of which this Government have taken a considerable portion. I may mention to the honourable members that a hundred rupee share of the Company is now being sold at Rs. 370. This has become a venture of world-wide importance. The Travancore capitalists have not taken any appropriate quantity of shares in the Company. Government have taken some shares.

In the case of Fertilisers, I am glad to say that all the shares that the Travancore capitalists have applied for, have been given to them and provision has been made in the Rayon factory, in the Sericulture factory and in the factories proposed to be started, that all the shares applied for by Travancoreans should be granted to them. Otherwise no company will be allowed to start an industry. I have made it a condition in all the new development schemes, that all the shares for which the applications come from Travancoreans must be allotted to them cent per cent. So, there is no difficulty about that.

Mr. Pual A. Thaliath: ഇനി കാർഷികാദായനികുതിയെപ്പററി പറയാം. കൂടുതൽ ആദായം ലഭിക്കുന്നവരിൽനിന്നും കൂടുതൽ നികുതിപിരിക്കുക എന്നുള്ള തത്വം നല്ലതുതന്നെയാണ്. പക്ഷെ ഇപ്പോൾ കാർഷികാദായനികുതി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയതിൽ കർഷകർ ഒന്നുകൂടി വിഷമിക്കേണ്ടിവന്നിരിക്കുന്നു. മുൻകാലങ്ങളിൽ റവന്യൂ അധികാരികളുടെ അടുക്കൽ മാത്രം കർഷകൻ കരവുംകൊണ്ടുപോയാൽ മതിയായിരുന്നു. കുറച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞപ്പോൾ ചില സാധനങ്ങൾക്ക് തീരുവ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുകയും എക്സൈസുകാരെ കർഷകൻ സമീപിക്കുവാൻ തുടങ്ങുകയും ചെയ്തു. യുദ്ധം വന്നതോടുകൂടി ഭക്ഷണവകുപ്പുകാർ നെല്ലിനും മററുമായി കർഷ

[Mr. Paul A. Thaliath.]

കനെ പിടിക്കൂടി. ഇങ്ങനെ പാവപ്പെട്ട കർഷകൻ ഈ മൂന്നു യജമാനന്മാരെയും തൃപ്തിപ്പെടുത്തുവാൻ വിഷമിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കവെയാണ് നാലാമത്തെ യജമാനനായ ഇൻകംടാക്സുകാരൻ വരുന്നത്.

President: By the time this comes up one or two of the other items will disappear (Laughter)

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath: സർ, എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളത് കർഷകനെ ഇതിൽ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു യജമാനന്റെ കീഴിലാക്കിയാൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നാണ്. ൫ ഏക്കറിൽ കൂടുതൽ ഭൂമിയുള്ളവരിൽ നിന്നു മാത്രമെ നികുതി ഈടാക്കാവൂ, അതിൽ താഴെ ഉള്ളവർക്കു യാതൊരു നികുതിയും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കരുത്. അതിൽ കൂടുതൽ ഉള്ളവർക്കു ൫ മുതൽ ൨൦ ഏക്കർവരെ ഒരു നിരക്കം......

President: Order, order. What about the alienations? What about partitions? What would happen if the "1 മുതൽ 5 വരെ" (Laughter) are all purchased as now happens? The moment you start agricultural income tax, excess profits tax or super tax, the "one to hundred" becomes sub-divided and partitioned. We have to provide against it. If we would exempt the 'one to five" acres, each one will divide it into 5 sub-divisions so that all of them are exempt. What would the honourable member do to prevent it?

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath: അങ്ങിനെ ഭൂമി വിലക്കു വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതിനെ തടയേണ്ടതാണ്.

President: In fact it is a very good suggestion. Would the honourable member be prepared for a kind of rule by which a person should not sub-divide his holdings more than a certain extent? Would he consent to a legislation of that kind? Supposing that a person has 5 acres today, at the beginning of the taxation period. Would the honourable member consent to the 5 acres remaining as 5 acres hereafter and not to be sub-divided? This position is not so extravagant as it may, at first sight, seem to be.

In Bengal, for instance, under the Dayabhaga system, there might be a hundred members in the family; but the family property cannot be sub-divided or partitioned. If I were sure that there was any possibility of legislation forbidding a partition like that, then the question will be much easier than it is at present. Would the honourable member favour that?

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : നിയമംമൂലം അതു തടയണമെന്നാണു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു്. ഞാൻ മുൻപ് പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ൫ ഏക്കർവരെയുള്ള ഭൂമിയുള്ള കർഷകരെ ആദായനികുതി ഈടാക്കുന്നതിൽനിന്നു് നിഷ്പ്രയാസം ഒഴിവാക്കാവുന്നതാണു്.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan : ധാരാളം ആദായം ലഭിക്കുന്ന വസ്തുക്കളിൽനിന്നും ഒട്ടും തന്നെ ആദായം ലഭിക്കുവാൻ പ്രകൃതിസിദ്ധമായ കഴിവുകൾ ഇല്ലാത്ത വസ്തുക്കളിൽനിന്നും ഒരേ തോതിലുള്ള നികുതി തന്നെ ഈടാക്കണമെന്നാണോ മെമ്പറിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം?

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : അതെ.

Mr. A. N. Satyanesan : തരിശുഭൂമികൾക്കും ആദായം കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതുണ്ടോ?

Mr. Paul A. Thaliath : തീരെ മോശമായ ഭൂമിക്കു ബേസിക്ക് ടാക്ക്സ് മാത്രം കൊടുത്താൽ മതിയെന്നു് നിശ്ചയിക്കുക.

ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു് ൫ ഏക്കർ വരെയുള്ളവർക്കു് നികുതി ഒന്നും വേണ്ടയെന്നാണു്. ൨൦ ഏക്കർവരെ ഒരു നിരക്കും ൨൦ മുതൽ ൩൦ വരെ വേറെ ഒരു നിരക്കും ഇങ്ങനെ ഏക്കർ കൂടിവരുംതോറും നികുതിയും കൂടുതലായി ഈടാക്കുക. ഇങ്ങനെ ഏക്കറിന്റെ കൂടുതൽ അനുസരിച്ച് കൂടുതൽ നികുതി പിരിക്കണം. ഇങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാ. ആദായനികുതിതന്നെ പിരിക്കണമെന്നാണെങ്കിൽ കർഷകർക്കു് കൂടുതൽ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾക്കു് ഇടവരാത്തവിധം വേണ്ട എല്ലാ നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളും ആദായനികുതി ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു് കൊടുക്കണം. ഇന്നലെ ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡണ്ടു അവർകൾ പറഞ്ഞു ൧൦൦൦-ൽ കൂടുതൽ ആളുകളിൽ നിന്നും കാർഷികാദായനികുതി പിരിക്കേണ്ടി വരികയില്ല എന്നു്. ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു് ആദായനികുതി പിരിക്കുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ കണക്കുപ്രകാരം പതിനായിരത്തിൽ പരം ആളുകളുടെ ലിസ്റ്റു് അവർ ഉണ്ടാക്കുമെന്നാണു്. ഇത്തരം ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ ഇല്ലാതാക്കുന്നതിനും കൂടുതൽ ആളുകളെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിക്കാതെയിരിക്കുന്നതിനും ഗവണ്മെന്റു വേണ്ട വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണു്. ആദായം തിട്ടപ്പെടുത്തി നികുതി നിർണ്ണയിക്കുന്നതു് കുറഞ്ഞതു് ൫ കൊല്ലത്തേക്കെങ്കിലും നിലയിൽ ഇരിക്കണം. എന്നാൽ ഈ കാലങ്ങളിൽ കൃഷിപ്പിഴകൊണ്ടോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ വിലക്കുറവുകൊണ്ടോ ആദായം ഇല്ലാതെ വന്നാൽ അപ്പഴപ്പോൾ നികുതി കുറവു ചെയ്യുന്നതിനുള്ള വ്യവസ്ഥകളും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണം.

[Mr. Paul A. Thaliath.]

അടുത്തതു് നെല്ലെടുപ്പു പദ്ധതിയെപ്പററിയാണു്. സർ, ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ യുദ്ധപരിതസ്ഥിതിയെ പരിഗണിച്ചും നമ്മുടെ ഇന്നത്തെ ഭക്ഷ്യധാന്യനിലയെ പരിഗണിച്ചും ഇനിമേലാലെങ്കിലും ചെറിയ കൃഷിക്കാരുടെ പക്കൽനിന്നും നെല്ലു എടുക്കാതെ കഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടിയാൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നാണു് എനിക്കു ആദ്യമായി പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്. ഈ സംഗതി ഞാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞ ബഡ്ജററു വിമർശനവേളയിലും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതാണു്. നെല്ലെടുപ്പുപദ്ധതിയിൽനിന്നും ചെറിയ കൃഷിക്കാരെ നിശ്ശേഷം ഒഴിവാക്കുന്നതു് അവർക്കു് വലിയ അനുഗ്രഹപ്രദമായിരിക്കും.

അടുത്തതു്, ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളതോതിനെപ്പററിയാണു. സിവിൽലിസ്ററു് പരിശോധിച്ചാൽ ഓരോ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾക്കും മുറപ്രകാരം ഇത്രരൂപാ ശമ്പളമാണുള്ളതെന്നു് കാണാം. എന്നാൽ ഇന്നിരിക്കുന്ന പല ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കും സിവിൽലിസ്ററിൽ കാണുന്ന ശമ്പളത്തേക്കാൾ ശമ്പളമുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നു. ക്ലിപ്തം ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള സംഖ്യതന്നെ ഈ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾക്കു് കൊടുക്കാവൂ എന്നാണു് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്താൽ മുതലെടുപ്പിൽ ഒരു നല്ല തുക ചെലവാക്കാതെ ലാഭപ്പെടുത്താൻ കഴിയും.

സർ, ഭരണ പരിഷ്ക്കാരത്തെക്കുറിച്ചു് ഒരു വാക്കു് പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ അവസാനിപ്പിക്കാം. ഇവിടെ ഒരു ഭരണപരിഷ്ക്കാരം എത്രയും വേഗം നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തണമെന്നു് ജനങ്ങൾ തീവ്രമായി ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. ൧൧൦൮-ൽ ഉണ്ടായ ഒരു ഭരണപരിഷ്ക്കാരമാണു് ഇപ്പോൾ നിലവിലിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ൧൨ കൊല്ലം കഴിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. പൊളിച്ചെഴുത്തിനുള്ള കാലം സമാഗതമായിരിക്കുന്നു. മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ പരമാധികാരത്തിൽപ്പെട്ട ഒരു സംഗതിയാണു ഇതു എന്നു ഞാൻ സമ്മതിക്കുന്നു. പക്ഷേ രാജ്യഭരണതന്ത്രജ്ഞനായ അങ്ങു പ്രജാവത്സലനായ പൊന്നുതിരുമേനിയെ ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ ഉപദേശിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം എത്രയും വേഗത്തിൽ ഒരു ഭരണപരിഷ്ക്കാരം ഇവിടെ നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തുവാൻ തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടു ഒരുവിധത്തിലും മടിക്കുകയില്ലെന്നാണു് എന്റെ വിശ്വാസം. അങ്ങു് അതു് ചെയ്യണമെന്നു ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: Sir, the Financial Secretary's speech introducing the Budget is characterised by brevity without sacrificing clarity, and I do not hesitate to congratulate the Financial Secretary for the clear exposition of the financial position of

the State and for acquainting this House with the programme of the future activities of the State-both the normal or the routine and the post-war activities. The administration deserves all praise, and the people are exceptionally lucky in that the phenomenal increase in the estimated revenue for the year 1121, namely Rs. 623·65 lakhs, a figure which has so far been reached only by Hyderbad and Mysore among the Indian States—is not arrived at as a result of any prospective imposition of additional taxation which will hit hard upon the people.

Sir, as I have no time to pass over non-essentials, I shall content myself with offering certain remarks which I feel important for the kind consideration of this House. The one noticeable feature that we find from a perusal of the revised budget of the year 1120 is the increase in income and the decrease in expenditure. I would rather have been happy if the order had been reversed, for a decrease in expenditure can be understood only in terms of the lesser activities of the important departments like agriculture, education, public works etc., activities necessary for the promotion of human happiness. The merits of a budget are not to be judged by the unspent money it brings to the treasury but by the measure of human happiness which it ensures. The Financial Secretary's explanation will, for the time being, satisfy our reasonable curiosity, but what I say is that the several departments concerned should not sit idle over a heap of money, not knowing how to spend it profitably and to the best advantage of the country. The art of expending money usefully and profitably is a more difficult art than the art of making money; and I must say that these several departments will have to face bitter criticism this time next year if they do not spend to the last farthing, the amounts that are allotted to them, for the amelioration of the condition of the people, to ensure them a happier and healthier life both in mind and in body and to raise their standard of living.

Being an agricultural country, let me first deal with agriculture which is the occupation of the majority of the people. The war has demonstrated to us the prime importance of agriculture to this country and also the necessity to increase the productive capacity of the soil. The question as to whether we should be self-sufficient in the matter of food-stuffs is a debatable point regarding which there is divergence of opinion. Of course, when Burma rice is imported in super-abundance, our cultivators may falter and fail in the teeth of competition. But what I say is steps should be taken for lowering the cost of production in such a way as to leave a margin of profit to the cultivator so as to enable him to successfully compete with any competitor. Well, we see in 1118 Rs. 337

[Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai.]

lakhs have been invested for the purchase of food-stuffs from outside, while in 1119 the figure has mounted up to Rs. 912 lakhs. What would have been our gain, if, we had been able to produce rice in our country for our requirements at least for 6 months in the year. My friend Mr. Joseph said that proper accounts have not been rendered for the amount invested for the purchase of food stuffs. What I say is that these amounts were invested by way of advances for the purchase of food stuffs. As it is these are only investments and the question of accounting would come only afterwards when the Government find that there is no longer any necessity to continue the present system of purchase and distribution on a ration basis. Then Mr. Joseph said that our Government was not able to make a profit out of the rice transaction. We are indeed indebted to our benign Government for the steps they have taken to solve the food problem. They are not expected to make a profit out of the sale of rice to the people of the country, whose staple food is rice. This is not a commercial concern, and if the Government did not make a profit we are all the more glad about it. My friend Mr. Joseph then criticised about the compulsory purchase of paddy. But he forgets for a moment that the paddy we produce will satisfy our requirements only for three months and yet we say this country is an agricultural country. Is it not a sad commentary on the Department of agriculture that this country is able to produce rice only for three months in an year. When such is the actual state of affairs there is no alternative for the Government but to resort to the steps which they have taken to ease the food situation. I can unhesitatingly say that the situation could have developed into a crisis but the situation was carefully handled and the food problem was solved by the supreme efforts of our Government. The compulsory purchase of paddy is one of the most beneficent measures adopted by Government under the circumstances.

With regard to agriculture, it is possible to increase the productive capacity of the soil three-fold or even fourfold if we pursue scientific methods of cultivation. By adopting new methods of plant breeding, by proper manure, by the use of electric power for irrigation, by effective campaign against swarming caterpillar and other pests, by the utilisation of the particular kind of paddy for the particular kind of soil, by these and other measures it is possible to increase the output of paddy. Our Agricultural Department should be more alert and they should touch not only the cultivator's soil but they must touch the cultivator's soul also, so as to

convert the old type of cultivator, the unimaginative type with a pessimistic outlook into a modern scientific cultivator who will fit in with the new scheme of things.

The Perunchani Reservoir Scheme calculated to solve the problem of irrigation in south Travancore, and liberal provision for the production of fertilisers for the supply of cheap manure are calculated to confer lasting benefits to the country.

The House adjourned at 5-30 p. m.

S. VAIDYANATHA AIYAR,
Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.